MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 APRIL 1981

Lebanon

Israeli Landing Operation--Citing the Palestinian news agency WAFA, AFP reported that Israeli forces staged a large-scale operation in southern Lebanon during the night of 9-10 April, clashing with Palestinian forces at several sites in the An-Nabatiyah area. It added that Israeli gunboats bombarded the central sector of southern Lebanon. According to Beirut radio, the Israeli forces landed at seven points in the south, beginning with a helicopter landing operation near Az-Zahrani. Confirming the raid, Jerusalem radio reported that its target was a "terrorist base" near 'Arab Salim. Quoting the commander of the IDF northern command, the radio said tanks and buildings at the base were destroyed and four "terrorists" were killed. Another Jerusalem radio report said IDF forces sustained two casualties. Beirut radio later claimed that Israeli Phantom aircraft bombed Ad-Dalahmiyah on the morning of 10 April, damaging houses and wounding three civilians.

Agreement on Army Deployment--Citing the Lebanese newspapers AS-SAFIR and AL-ANWAR, AFP reported that Israel has agreed to the deployment of Lebanese Army troops alongside UN peacekeeping forces in southern Lebanon. UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart, who is visiting Beirut, has informed the Lebanese authorities of the Israeli decision, it added.

Beirut, Zahlah Calm--Beirut radio reported that Beirut and Zahlah remained calm, with only sporadic firing heard from the ridge surrounding Zahlah. It added that internal security forces patrols entered Zahlah and that medical teams were evacuating the seriously wounded. The Voice of Lebanon radio, however, said that on 9 April Syrian forces opened heavy fire on the eastern towns of Wadi al-'Ara'ish and Ad-Duq. It also claimed that 200 inhabitants of Zahlah and 100 Syrians had been killed during the recent violence there.

Al-Jumayyil Statement--According to the Voice of Lebanon radio, Phalangist leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has said that unless the UN Security Council "guarantees the Syrian presence in Lebanon as well as its actions" and places it under Lebanese authority, the Phalangists will henceforth not accept the "Syrian presence" regardless of "the considerations and complications."

Diplomatic Contacts--After meeting with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said they had discussed the situation in Lebanon with total frankness, Beirut radio reported. He added that the United States has major responsibilities in this connection and that his government insisted that action be taken to prevent Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon. Another Beirut radio report said French Ambassador Louis Delamare met with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus to continue the talks begun by French presidential envoy Hubert Argod.

Meetings in Damascus--Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met in Damascus with Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, Al-Murabitun Secretary General Ibrahim Qulaylat and a delegation of the Lebanese National Salvation Front in Southern Lebanon, Damascus television reported, to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Citing SANA, the television reported that after the meeting Junblatt made a statement praising the Arab Deterrent Forces' role in Lebanon and condemning the practices of the Phalangists, who, he said, want to extend the "Zionist-isolationst" line to Zahlah in order to besiege Syria.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq Protests Syrian Collusion--INA reported that Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi has sent a memorandum to all Arab League member countries and to the league's secretary general, Chedli Klibi, protesting Syria's participation in Iran's 4 April attack on an

Iraqi airbase. The memorandum, which cites evidence that the Iranian planes attacked from Syrian territory, said that Iraq reserves the right to take measures to protect itself against Syrian aggression.

Nonaligned Committee--The four-man nonaligned peace committee met in Baghdad with Iraqi Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, INA reported. Later, INA said, Foreign Minister Hammadi met separately with one of the committee members, his Indian counterpart, P.V. Narasimha Rao. The committee subsequently left for Tehran, INA reported, announcing in a press statement that it had acquainted itself with the Iraqi Government's stand on the war.

Military Situation--The Iranian Military Draft Board has announced the conscription of all male Iranians born in 1962-63, Tehran radio reported. The radio also noted that the gendarmerie has brought forward the draft date for a section of males born in 1959-62. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, claimed successes in the Gilan-e Gharb and Susangerd areas on 8-9 April. Tehran radio reported successes on a number of western and southern fronts and noted that Iraqi artillery shelled Ahvaz. Between 6 and 8 April Tehran radio had reported Iranian advances in mountainous western areas. Supreme Defense Council spokesman 'Ali Khamene'i stated that Iranian forces control Dehloran, Tehran radio reported, and claimed that the Iranians are ready to deal a final blow to Iraq as soon as the order is issued. Khamene'i made his comments after a tour of the western fronts and Dehloran.

Iran

Khomeyni Speech--In a speech to Muslim refugees from Iraq, broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni said the Iraqis should follow the example of Iran's Islamic revolution and overthrow their "despotic regime." Noting that the Iraqi authorities had executed Shi'ite leader Ayatollah as-Sayyid Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr because of his complaints about their oppression, Khomeyni asserted that President Saddam Husayn is even less a true Muslim than was the former shah of Iran.

Mashhad Ulema Dissent--AFP reported that the spiritual leaders in Mashhad, Ayatollahs Hasan Qomi and Abdollah Shirazi, have criticized Iran's political and judicial leaders for acting contrary to Islamic law. Ayatollah Qomi said the judiciary is incompetent and corrupt and asserted that the clergy should stay out of politics.

Circular on U.S.-Held Goods--Tehran radio broadcast the text of a circular issued by the Prime Ministry Office calling on all ministries and departments that own goods that were impounded by the U.S. Government but have now been released to take steps to have them shipped to Iran.

Iraq-Jordan

Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim arrived in Baghdad on 9 April, INA reported, where he held talks with Foreign Minister Hammadi and delivered a message to President Saddam Husayn from Jordan's King Husayn. The message, he said, dealt with the Middle East situation in general and with Jordan's stand on the Iran-Iraq war. Citing PETRA-JNA, Amman radio said that on his return to Jordan, Al-Qasim stated that he and Hammadi had discussed the Israeli decision to dig a canal linking the Mediterranean and Dead Seas, the situation in Lebanon and recent moves to find a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Israel

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori told the newspaper HA'ARETZ that Israel has decided to risk a confrontation with the U.S. administration by contesting the U.S. decision to sell AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia. He added that Israel has already appealed to various friends in the United States for help and will use U.S. public opinion and Israel's friends in Congress and in the White House in its fight.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 069 *10 April 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Prime Minister Interviewed on Gulf, Arab Issues C 1
Government Makes Contacts for Lebanon Peace Plan C 2
Yugoslav Official Holds Talks With Leaders C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

Envoy to UK Sees Change in European Attitude C 3
'UKAZ Lauds French Mideast Stand; Hits U.S. Policy [7 Apr] C 4
Media View Haig Tour, U.S. Role in Mideast Peace C 4
Radio Comment C 4
Press View C 5

OMAN

Radio Reports Soviet Military Action in PDRY C 6

UAE

Thatcher 'Terrorist' Description of PLO Attacked C 7

PDRY

President Views Yemeni Unity, Gulf Issues C 7
[Beirut AS-SAFIR 1 Apr]
Hungary's General Olah Ends Visit With Talks C 9
7 Apr Talks C 9
8 Apr Meeting C 10
Departure Report C 10

EGYPT

'Ali Meets With U.S. Envoy, Views UN Sinai Force D 1
Ghali Meets With Van Der Klaauw in Geneva 9 Apr D 1
Paper Views Haig Trip, Reproaches Saudis, Jordan D 2
Apprehended 'Terrorist Group' Linked to PFLP D 2

IRAQ

Nonaligned Committee Leaves for Tehran 10 Apr E 1
Armed Forces General Command Communique 301 E 1
Memo Sent to Arab League on Syria-Iran Collusion E 2
Iranians Reportedly Training in Syrian Camp E 2
Abortive Attempt on Saddam Husayn Reported E 2
[Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan]

JORDAN

Al-Qasim Returns From Baghdad, Makes Statement F 1
Rif'at Al-Asad Reportedly Strengthens Position F 1
Amman Criticizes Role of Syrian Forces in Lebanon F 2
Haig Accused of Bringing Preconceived Priority F 2

LEBANON

Al-Wazzan Meets Draper, Makes Statement 9 Apr G 1
Israeli 'Landing Operation' in South Reported G 1
Skaf Statement Calls on People To Resist 'Plots' G 2
French Ambassador Views French Role in Situation G 2
Nationalist-Palestinian Joint Force Said Forming G 3
[Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 8 Apr]
Al-Jumayyil Demands UN 'Guarantee' Syrian Role G 4
Haddad Comments 10 Apr on Cease-Fire in Zahlah G 4

SYRIA

Lebanese Party Leaders Meet Al-Asad, Depart H 1

ISRAEL

Shamir Interviewed on U.S. Middle East Policy [POST 10 Apr] I 1
Tzipori Says AWACS Decision Worth Confrontation I 1
[HA'ARETZ 9 Apr]
Tzipori Avows Continued Aid to Lebanon Christians I 3
IDF Raids 'Terrorist Base' North of An-Nabatiyah I 4
Further Details I 4
Casualty Report I 4
Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist Bases' 10 Apr I 5
Labor Chairman Announces Senior Team Members I 5
MA'ARIV Places Blame for 'Failure' of Elections [8 Apr] I 5

NORTH AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Developments in Relations With Libya Reported Q 1
Bneijara To Visit Q 1
Libyan Aid Offer Q 1

SUDAN

Numayri Reacts to Proposal of Minisummit on Chad Q 2
Arab Committee on Dispute With Libya Requested Q 2

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Political Seminar Begins in Asmara 8 Apr R 1

UGANDA

Nairobi: Muwanga Acknowledges Army Indiscipline R 1
10 Special Members To Be Added to Parliament R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

BURUNDI

Central Committee Sets Economic Policies S 1

CAMEROON

Yaounde Comments on Chester Crocker's African Tour S 1

CONGO

Talks With Algerian President Open in Brazzaville S 2

GABON

Creation of Public Safety Ministry Announced S 2
Libreville Comment S 3

ZAIRE

Communique Issued on Talks With Ugandan President S 3

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Commentary Examines African Refugee Problem T 1
Committee To Advise Government on Prices, Incomes T 1
TUC Calls Off Planned 48-hour Warning Strike T 2

LIBERIA

Doe Warns 'Bodyguards' Against Harassing Citizens T 2

MALI

Communique Issued on Traore Visit to Mauritania T 3
Traore Speech on Opening of Party Campaign T 5

NIGERIA

Lagos Announces Summit Meeting on Chad Postponed T 6
Shagari, Bendjedid Talks Begin in Lagos 9 Apr T 6
Commentary Notes 'Special Relationship' With Cuba T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

SWAPO, ANC Reject U.S. Proposal on Namibia U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

South-West Africa Delegation Departs for Europe U 1

ZAMBIA

SFRY's Mijatovic Begins Lusaka Talks With Kaunda [Belgrade] U 1

KUWAIT

PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON GULF, ARAB ISSUES

LD041650 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Apr 81

[Text] Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah has affirmed that the biggest threat to the Gulf area in the coming period is that of foreign intervention and attempts to turn the region into a sphere for international conflicts.

In an interview with Milhim Karam, chief editor of the Lebanese papers LA REVUE DE LIBAN and AL-BAYRAQ, Shaykh Sa'd said the best way to check this danger is for all the Gulf countries to agree to cooperate in keeping the region away from international conflicts and preventing foreigners from intervening in its affairs. He added it is in the interest of all countries, foremost the superpowers, that this vital region should remain an oasis of security and stability, free from all forms of conflicts.

In reply to a question about the agenda for the summit conference of leaders of the Gulf Cooperation and Coordination Council member countries in Abu Dhabi next May, the prime minister pointed out this will be the first conference held by the heads of states of the council's member countries since its establishment last February. He said that at the Abu Dhabi conference the final formula for the council's basic laws is expected to be approved. The conference will also discuss recommendations and resolutions referred to it by the countries' foreign ministers.

On recent reports about an unpublicized meeting of defense ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council member countries, the prime minister said all meetings held and steps taken since the establsihment of the council have been open and declared. The objectives of the council, too, were clear and frank and were contained in a statement issued and announced publicly, he said. It is customary, he said, for Arab Gulf ministers, irrespective of their portfolios, to hold meetings and these meetings take place periodically.

Asked why no mention was contained in the council's charter about the military matters and cooperation among the Arab Gulf countries in this field, he said the declaration on establishment of the Arab Gulf Cooperation and Coordination Council provided for the member countries' desire to establish coordination and integration among them in all fields. It also provided for deepening and cementing ties, relations and cooperation among the member countries in various fields.

In reply to another question the prime minister said that differences in some of the stands taken by various members of the council were due to differences of opinion only, but all were directed toward the realization of one goal: the general interest of our peoples, our countries and nation.

On his views about a way out of the crisis which has resulted from the failure of all attempts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian war, he expressed his hope that the Islamic good offices committee will succeed in reaching a just solution which would put an end to this conflict which pains every Muslim. The conflict drains the potential of Arab and Islamic nations and weakens them in the face of the challenges and dangers surrounding them.

Replying to another question, he reiterated Kuwait's desire to continue to develop its military capabilities and to modernize its arms and equipment so that it can perform its national and pan-Arab duty in the best possible manner.

On the Iraqi-Kuwaiti talks for solving the problem of the borders between the two countries and plans for joint cooperation between them, particularly in the areas of water and electricity, he said: Contacts are continuing with the brother officials in fraternal Iraq with a view to bolstering fraternal cooperation and settling the question of common borders between the two countries. He added: We have great hopes about the possibility of reaching agreement on the demarcation of the common borders between the two countries in view of the close ties between our two fraternal countries and peoples, and for the sake of the realization of the sublime national interest. He affirmed that Kuwait is confident the brother officials in fraternal Iraq, headed by President Saddam Husayn, will help solve this issue so that the two fraternal countries can march forward into wider vistas of fruitful cooperation for the good of their peoples and nations. He said plans for cooperation between the two countries in the areas of electricity and water have now reached an advanced level of study in preparation for their implementation.

Asked about Kuwait's role in regard to relations between San'a' and Aden, he pointed out Kuwait considers it its duty to do all it can for solving disputes among the brothers. he expressed his hope that the sagacity, wisdom and care of the leadership in both countries for the sublime national interest are capable of overcoming all conflicts and problems. He affirmed that at no time would Kuwait hesitate to perform its duty toward solving inter-Arab conflicts and restoring understanding and solidarity to Arab ranks.

In reply to a question about the chances for solving the chronic Lebanese crisis which has now been going on for 6 years, the prime minister said: Any solution to the Lebanese problem must stem, in the first place, from the convictions of the Lebanese themselves. Then, the rest of the Arabs would not hesitate to stand by them, he said, so that a solution could be reached to restore security and stability to fraternal Lebanon.

On his visualization of the form and nature of future moves for solving the Middle East crisis, he affirmed that any acceptable solution for this issue depends on the restoration of Arab solidarity as the only way for achieving such a solution and, indeed, the imposition of such a solution if necessary. He reiterated that any acceptable solution must also depend on Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory, foremost of which is Jerusalem, and on granting the Palestine people their legitimate rights to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state in their homeland under the leadership of their legitimate representative, the PLO.

In reply to a number of questions pertaining to domestic matters, he reiterated the need to use the supreme national interest as the framework for cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities. He said the government accepts and welcomes all objective, unbiased, parliamentary opposition aimed at serving the national interest. Such opposition falls within the framework of the principles of consultation and democracy which are inherent in the souls of us all. He expressed his optimism for the return of parliamentary life, particularly as all are anxious to insure the success of our parliamentary march, and in deepening and entrenching it as a unique experiment and an ideal to be followed. [words indistinct]

GOVERNMENT MAKES CONTACTS FOR LEBANON PEACE PLAN

LD100902 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0726 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Kuwait, 10 Apr (KUNA)--Kuwait's AL-WATAN says today that the Kuwaiti Government has conducted "intensive" contacts with some Arab countries to formulate a peace plan to settle the Lebanon crisis.

Quoting political sources here which it describes as informed, the paper adds that the plan has been proposed by Kuwait and separates the Lebanon crisis from the Palestinian issue. It says that the proposed plan seeks "to end the Lebanon crisis, which is weakening Syria as well as Lebanon, and the weakening of these two countries is definitely in Israel's interest." The paper has not given any details about the plan.

The paper also says that Heir Apparent and Prime Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah has sent a message to Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. The paper says "the message contained Kuwait's view regarding the Lebanon crisis and methods of settling it in a manner which will satisfy all parties involved in the dispute." AL-WATAN has quoted sources as saying that Kuwait "attaches great hopes to Syria's responding to its proposals aimed at ending the sharp armed dispute in sister Lebanon for fear that this situation may develop [words indistinct]. The Zionist enemy is counting on this in order to be able to implement more of its plans in the region, foremost in the southern regions of Lebanon."

YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL HOLDS TALKS WITH LEADERS

LD070646 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (KUNA)--Yugoslav Vice President for Economic Affairs Zvone Dragan this morning had talks with Kuwaiti officials on bolstering economic relations between the two countries. He first met with Kuwaiti leader Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah and then with Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'id al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. This latter meeting was also attended by Finance Minister 'Abd al-Latif al-Hamad. Later Dragan met with Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn.

Dragan arrived in Kuwait yesterday on an official visit.

SAUDI ARABIA

ENVOY TO UK SEES CHANGE IN EUROPEAN ATTITUDE

LD071456 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] Riyadh, 7 apr (SPA)--Shaykh Nasir al-Manquiri, Saudi Ambassador to Britain, has described the visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to Saudi Arabia as a very important in the sphere of bilateral relations between the two countries especially after the recent period of coolness.

In a statement published in AL-MADINAH today, he says Mrs Thatcher's visit and the visit of Helmut Schmidt are evidence of the change that has begun to appear in the postures of the European countries toward the just Arab causes, foremost the Palestinian question.

He says this European move stems from the existence of an understanding of Arab problems by the European public opinion and the start of its response to the just Arab causes, a change which is in favor of the Palestinian question.

On the other hand, Al-Manquiri denied that the setting up of the Gulf Cooperation Council has any connection with the Iraqi-Iranian war or the changes which have occurred in Iran. He says the council was formed as an official declaration of something already in existence, notably the coordination and cooperation between the Gulf countries in various fields, even the military one.

'UKAZ LAUDS FRENCH MIDEAST STAND; HITS U.S. POLICY

LD091527 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 7 Apr 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Two Dangers Not One"]

[Excerpts] The French defense minister's visit to our country proves the kingdom's desire to diversify its arms sources and to deal with friends whose wills are unaffected by the daily Zionist "brainwashing." De Gualle was indeed great when he liberated the French will and determination from Zionist domination and distortion. France has thus become a friend of the Arabs and our friendship with it is increasing because it deals with us on equal footing, respects our sovereignty, understands the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and is seeking to settle the problem through European action.

Our friendship with France also stems from its realization that Gulf security is the concern of the Gulf's people and is achieved by meeting these countries' arms needs, not by "rapid deployment forces and alliances." We are against alliances and counteralliances that involve us in the big power's game, which poses dangers to the Arab area which we want to avert.

As Gen Alexander Haig continues his current tour of the area he will perhaps realize that our priority is to settle the Middle East problem, which, unless it is settled, will be a real danger, which we want to avoid. Let everybody learn a practical lesson from what is happening in Lebanon. Denying the Palestinians a state of their own and refusing to establish Arab and Islamic sovereignty over Jerusalem will always lead to divisions in the Arab ranks and give the superpowers an opportunity to tamper with the destiny and security of the area, which is a danger to peace and security not only in the area but also worldwide.

We reject alliances but are proud of any friend who heeds our just and legitimate rights. We rejected Camp David because it divided the Arab ranks rather than uniting them; it also ignored the crux of the problem, which is the Palestinian people and the need to restore their rights in full.

What we want is a new look at Arab rights and assurances that arms deals with the kingdom are not linked to providing the Zionist entity with funds and arms that would only make it more audacious and intransigent and therefore more dangerous to the area and the world. As far as we are concerned the Zionist danger is no smaller than the communist danger, against which we know how to defend ourselves, thanks to our Islamic creed, independent armament, and free will.

MEDIA VIEW HAIG TOUR, U.S. ROLE IN MIDEAST PEACE

Radio Comment

LD091515 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Proceeding from its sincere desire to achieve real peace and to ensure stability in the region, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been clear in its dialogue with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. The position which the kingdom adopts, and from which it is not prepared to move away, was resubmitted to the new U.S. administration through Secretary of State Alexander Haig, with all the positive results it can achieve to serve the causes of the region and the world at large.

We in the Arab world do not raise the slogan of war just to declare aggression against someone else; nor do we denounce outside interventions just because we feel apprehensive or anxious, without sufficient justification for such denunciation. We declare our stands and our opinions on the basis of rights, on which there can be no compromise.

If the U.S. secretary of state has shown much understanding of and respect for such opinions and stands, it is because the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has reaffirmed that the United States' responsibility is much graver than just looking for peace--if the United States wants to remove the shadow of Soviet ambitions from the region. Soviet intentions have entered the stage of implementation in the circumstances of continuing negative attitudes among large groups in the United States at a time when it should have checked the arrogance and expansionist plans of the Israeli enemy. We do not believe it is possible for any power on earth to violate the sovereignty and the rights of another state, unless it finds the ground prepared for this and unless it takes advantage of the [words indistinct] of the move at the right time.

It is useful that the U.S. secretary of state has become acquainted with the dimensions of the problems and the nature of the dangers threatening the region. Perhaps this will allow him to contribute to the crystalization of the new U.S. stands on various world issues, primarily that of Palestine. We appreciate the desire of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to get acquainted with these facts; rather, we look forward to this desire being coupled with practical steps which, we believe, U.S. President Ronald Reagan is capable of taking. Consequently, the image which has been imprinted on the mind about the United States' earlier stands, with all their absolute sympathy with Israel, will change.

Mr Haig has heard familiar opinions and attitudes regarding the kingdom, but he came to know the degree of our [words indistinct] and sincerity in presenting our major causes with impartiality and with sincere desire and mutual understanding, so that all parties (?can seek) real and appropriate ways out from the crises which the enemies are trying to create around this region.

What we would like to reassert is the fact that it is possible for the U.S. administration, under President Ronald Reagan, to achieve real and great progress in the process of peace, providing it overcomes the negativeness of the past and if it absorbs the situation [word indistinct] the past mistakes which led to the tensions. These did not serve the cause of peace, but hindered the progress toward real peace and stability in the region.

Press View

LD091330 Riyadh SPA in English 1205 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 9 Apr (SPA)--Editorials in today's newspapers stressed the need on the part of new U.S. administration to work out new proposals for the Middle East problem in the light of Mr. Alexander Haig's conclusion of the four-nation fact-finding tour. Saudi newspapers also welcomed HRH Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's statement describing Israel as a basisc threat to the peace and stability of the region and calling for a peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem based on international legality.

AR-RIYAD newspaper said Mr. Haig concluded his trip at a very difficult and decisive situation when conditions in Lebanon threatened world peace. AR-RIYAD said Mr. Haig on his recent trip became quite aware of the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and as such left one of his senior aides in Beirut to monitor the situation there.

AR-RIYAD said Mr. Haig was briefed in a right manner by Saudi leaders as they acquainted him that Israel was the basic threat to the peace and stability of the region and that Arab countries do not seek an illegal solution for legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The paper welcomed the reassurance of Mr. Haig and his optimism that peace would prevail in the Middle East in the near future. The paper hoped that Mr. Haig would be able to convince the new Reagan administration after being briefed by H.M. King Khalid on the repeated attacks by Israel on south Lebanon that posed a great threat to the region's security. The paper urged Mr. Haig to work out new proposals to solve the explosive situation in Lebanon, and exert American pressure on the Israeli enemy to put an end to repeated attacks on south Lebanon.

AL-JAZIRAH newspaper said the Royal Saudi Court statement on Lebanon reflected clear (?vision) on the serious dangers emerging from the deteriorating situation in Lebanon. The explosive nature of fighting in Zahlah had shattered the security of the brotherly nation and was a premeditated plot engineered for the sake of its ultimate division. It was clear logically that the Israeli enemy masterminded the Lebanese civil war since 1974 to carry out its strategic plots in Lebanon, the paper added. The paper said the (?Israeli enemy) would like to benefit by liquidation of the Palestinian existence through Lebanon's ultimate division.

AN-NADWAH described Mr. Haig's assurance to give top priority to the Arab-Israel conflict in the new Reagan administration policy as victory for the Arab cause. The paper also said it suggested the American policy would now be following a right track and would concentrate on the Palestinian issue which had always remained the crux of the Middle East issue. It warned that a further delay by Reagan administration to find a fair and peaceful solution for the Palestinians would provide the Soviet Union a chance to fish in the troubled waters. Therefore, it was necessary for the Reagan administration to seek an urgent solution for fair peace in the Middle East that should take into account the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people for self-determination.

AL-YAWM called for the reorganisation of priorities by the new Reagan administration to solving international issues. It said the first priority should be for a fair solution of the Palestinian problem and it could be followed by the Soviet threat of expansionism in the region. The paper hoped that Mr. Haig would pursue this order of priority and convince President Reagan of the need for seeking an urgent solution for a fair and a just settlement of the Palestinian issue. The paper cautioned that the repeated attacks of Israeli forces in south Lebanon and the continuation of Israeli occupation of Arab lands (?and) Jerusalem and its refusal to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people posed a danger of breaking out of a major war in the region.

OMAN

RADIO REPORTS SOVIET MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN PDRY

LD092055 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Apr 81 LA

[Text] A group of [word indistinct] newspapers has reported developments that indicate a further tightening of the Soviet noose around the Aden regime. The Soviet Union has again come back to reinforce its military position in the [word indistinct] existing Aden regime. It has sent large numbers of Soviet forces to Aden, capital of South Yemen, which controls the Red Sea entrance.

The reports say that Soviet officials issued orders to the Government of South Yemen to remove most of the inhabitants of Socotra Island, the largest island in the Arabian Sea, belonging to the communist Aden regime. What was mentioned [words indistinct] is that the Soviet troops in the base were subjected to attacks by the inhabitants of Socotra who objected to their presence. They have resorted to carrying out sabotage operations against the Soviet base there.

Reports from Aden sources say that the Soviets are planning to expand the naval base there in the next 5 months. There is no doubt that news of the Soviet military reinforcements in Aden will cause anxiety and disquiet to peace-loving states, for since 1979 informed Western sources have learned that a paratroop force is being organized in Aden from South Yemeni and (?Ethiopian) soldiers and some people who belong to terrorist organizations. This paratroop force is also being equipped with Soviet weapons, and Cuban, Soviet and East German military experts are training members of the force.

UAE

THATCHER 'TERRORIST' DESCRIPTION OF PLO ATTACKED

JN101312 Doha QNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Apr (QNA)--The paper AL-ITTIHAD, published here today, strongly criticized British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's recent statements in which she attacked the PLO. In its editorial the paper asks about the meaning of the word terrorist, which Thatcher accused the PLO of being. The paper adds that Britain was forced to deal with all those whom it described as terrorists, namely, Jomo Kenyatta in Kenya, Joshua Nkomo of Zimbabwe and Makarios in Cyprus, after they had achieved victory and affirmed that whoever defends his rights is no terrorist but a struggling revolutionary who embodies the best of our age's morals and values. The paper cites Britain's injustices against the Palestinian people, pointing out that this people have a right to demand moral and material compensation from Britain for its injustices against the Palestinian people, just like Israel did with Germany. Indeed, adds the paper, the noble British people admitted that Britain's practices represented one of the ugliest injustices in the world.

PDRY

PRESIDENT VIEWS YEMENI UNITY, GULF ISSUES

NC030955 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 1 Apr 81 p 10

[Interview of PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad by correspondent 'Abd as-Sattar al-Laz at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat on 26 March]

[Excerpts] Question: What has become of the unity discussions with northern Yemen?

Answer: On this score we can say that ever since the enemies of the Yemeni people lost the opportunities for creating tension between the two parts [of Yemen] to push them toward war, and ever since a sound atmosphere was established, many positive steps have been achieved along the road to our people's unity. Thanks are due to the sincere efforts made by our YSP and the leaderships in both parts of Yemen in conjunction with the efforts of the honest citizens who desire the unity of their country and their people. Various dialogues under peace conditions have achieved a number of good results--by both the unity committees and the unity summits. Many committees are about to conclude their tasks related to the union--the constitution committee for example. National firms dealing with transportation and tourist communications have also been set up as part of the economic integration. This year the unity committees will continue their meetings in light of the program drawn up by both parts. Naturally, we are aware that attaining the goal of unity still requires further sincere efforts. We must take into account that these efforts will collide with the imperialist and reactionary powers which are, secretly and openly, conspiring against the unity of our Yemeni people. Despite this we will continue to march along the path of struggle for the unity of our people--a unity based on sound and democratic foundations. We are certain of the victory of unity and the establishment of a Yemen unified on sound democratic bases and supported by the widest [possible] majority desiring unity and social progress.

Question: But the political system prevailing in Aden is complecely different from that of San'a'. In your opinion, how will these two situations be bridged and what political system can possibly be implemented in the unified country to which you aspire?

Answer: The disparity between the nature of the political systems in both parts of the Yemen cannot stop the struggle of the well-intentioned popular forces for the sake of unity. Our struggle for unity expresses the aims and interests of the greater portion of our Yemeni people and contradicts the reactionary and opportunistic interests of the narrowminded minority. The political system for which the revolutionary nationalists, who are the vanguards of our people, are struggling is the democratic system based on forces propelling social progress and socialist horizons. It is the democratic system which stands up against reaction, imperialism and exploitation and which aims at building a society based on justice, equality and social prosperity.

Question: How will the atmosphere of accord be reflected on you and San'a' in view of your support of the progressive national front in northern Yemen?

Answer: Let us say that an atmosphere of peaceful and democratic dialogue is being conducted in peaceful circumstances between the leaderships of both parts, who are assuming the responsibility for achieving this unity. They consider this one of the Yemeni revolution's prominent aims. If both parts are continuing their peaceful efforts to achieve unity and if there is a dialogue--in the northern part--between the political front and leadership, then this is a positive indication with regard to the enhancement of the political and national relaxation [that will lead] to unity. In our opinion, efforts to continue the national and democratic dialogue between the various well-intentioned forces of unity in the Yemeni arena defeat the imperialist and reactionary circles' attempts to seize opportunities to push the Yemeni people to the abyss of tension and battles.

Question: Recent reports spoke of a tension in the relations between Saudi Arabia and northern Yemen along their common border. Riyadh denied this later. What is the nature of the current relations between the two countries and what do the Riyadh rulers, in your opinion, seek by their pressure on the regime of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, if there is any pressure?

Answer: Reports of this kind come to the fore now and then. If true, then we in Aden become worried because we are one people but we are also interested in the stability of the region. In any case, we hope that the relations between Riyadh and San'a' will continue in an atmosphere of fraternity, cooperation that is void of pressure, armed disputes and interference in domestic affairs.

Question: A Kuwaiti newspaper has recently published reports about a mediation taking place between you and the Sultanate of Oman. How true are these reports and what is the present situation between Aden and Muscat, particularly after the joint maneuvers in Muscat recently?

Answer: There is no truth in what these papers published. There is no reason for this mediation now that the regime of Qabus has revealed that it is an agent of U.S. imperialism and has turned the land of Oman into an aggressive imperialist base as well as blatantly allied itself with the Camp David group and its policy that is against the interests of our Arab peoples. The recent joint maneuvers, carried out by joint forces from the United States and Egypt in addition to the Omani forces, clearly reveals the overt aggressive role which the regime of Qabus intends to carry out in the future in alliance with U.S. imperialism, the U.S. imperialism that brazenly declares its intention to deploy the Rapid Deployment Force in the region to defend what it calls its strategic interests. It must be pointed out here that Democratic Yemen was subjected to several provocations during the recent military maneuver. It rose to the level of its responsibility in defending its sovereignty and national independence.

On this occasion it is worthwhile reminding the U.S. imperialist agents, who contemplate aggression against our country, that they must realize that our country will not be an easy target. Our Yemeni people will rise to defend its country [and it will be] supported by all forces in the world which covet freedom, justice and peace.

Question: An improvement in the relations between you and Iraq has recently been observed. How do you assess these relations now?

Answer: We welcome any improvement in relations between the two countries, because it would serve the interests of the Iraqi and Yemeni peoples. It is imperative for these relations to be pervaded with a spirit of brotherhood, mutual respect and noninterference in domestic affairs. Furthermore, it is imperative for us to mobilize our efforts to achieve the interests of our people and to confront the Camp David policy and the aggressive designs which U.S. imperialism and its allies are concocting against peace and stability in the area.

HUNGARY'S GENERAL OLAH ENDS VISIT WITH TALKS

7 Apr Talks

LD072356 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Apr 81 EA

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, member of the Political Bureau and minister of defense, this evening received in his office Gen Istvan Olah, Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee member, deputy defense minister and chief of staff of the Hungarian People's Army.

In an atmosphere of cordiality they discussed struggle relations between the two friendly armies and also friendship relations between the two friendly countries and methods of strengthening and promoting them. The meeting was attended by Brother Capt 'Abdullah 'Ali Ulaywah, first deputy minister of defense and chief of staff, and the ambassador of the Peoples Republic of Hungary.

This morning Comrade Gen Istvan Olah and his delegation visited the military college. They were accompanied by Brother Capt Abdullah 'Ali Ulaywah and Lajos Benczekovits, Hungarian ambassador to Aden. The guest inspected the various sections of the college, the political activity room and heard a detailed report on the conditions and work of the college and its role in qualifying officers militarily and scientifically. He also saw military and athletic displays by the cadets.

He recorded in the honored visitors' book his appreciation of the great role played by the college in qualifying military officers to defend the gains of the Yemeni revolution and the homeland. He then presented symbolic gifts to the head of the college of distinguished students, expressing thereby the depth of friendship binding the two peoples, parties and armies of the two friendly countries.

Comrade Olah also paid a visit to the Yemeni-Hungarian friendship hospital and toured its various sections. In a speech to the workers and doctors of the hospital he said that the hospital was one of the fruits of friendship relations linking the two countries. He praised the humanitarian efforts of the Yemeni and Hungarian doctors and their joint efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship.

The director of the hospital also gave a speech in which he reviewed the development of health services in the armed forces and praised the support given by the socialist community of states to our country, among them the friendly People's Republic of Hungary.

8 Apr Meeting

LD082044 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Apr 81 EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers, has received the Hungarian military delegation currently visiting our country under the leadership of Comrade Gen Istvan Olah, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, deputy defense minister and chief of General Staff of the Hungarian Army

During the meeting, which was attended by Brothers 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, and Abdullah Alaywah, first deputy defense minister and chief of the General Staff of the armed forces, a cordial discussion took place on a number of issues concering the development of bilateral relations between the two friendly countries. Opinions were also exchanged concerning the situation in the Arab region and the general international situation in the Middle East region.

The brother secretary general explained that recent events indicated the imperialist circles' desire to destabilize the situation and increase tension in the region by encouraging Israel to continue its aggression against the Lebanese territories and encourage its isolationist stooges to expand the civil war in Lebanon and to escalate reactionary provocations against Syria, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Democratic Yemen and socialist Ethiopia.

The brother secretary general stressed that Democratic Yemen, in collaboration with the progressive and Arab peoples, would continue to confront all the imperialist and reactionary conspiracies and provocations and to strive to protect security and peace in the region. He explained that the Yemeni people and its government in the PDRY reaffirmed their increasing solidarity with the Lebanese people, the Palestinian revolution, Syria, the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the Arab nationalist and progressive forces which are confronting the designs and intrigues that are hostile to our Arab peoples.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad appreciated the development of relations between our country and the People's Republic of Hungary in a manner that served the joint aims and interests of the two peoples.

Departure Report

LD092113 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Apr 81 EA

[Excerpts] The Hungarian military delegation, led by Comrade Istvan Olah, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee, first deputy defense minister and chief of General Staff of the Hungarian People's Army, left Aden at noon today.

Shortly before his departure Istvan Olah expressed his happiness at visiting Democratic Yemen and the friendly reception and hospitality accorded him. He also expressed his happiness over the positive results yielded by the visit. He said various agreements had been signed for bilateral cooperation between the Defense Ministries in the two countries. He emphasized the internationalist stand of People's Hungary alongside Democratic Yemen in confronting imperialist conspiracies through which world imperialism is seeking to strangle the revolution in Democratic Yemen.

'ALI MEETS WITH U.S. ENVOY; VIEWS UN SINAI FORCE

NC091717 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has declared that the Arab Republic of Egypt is making intensive efforts to have UN forces participate as peacekeeping forces in the Middle East between Egypt and Israel. He added that the participation of UN forces is in full implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. He also said that Egypt is always keen on making the United Nations play its part in this respect.

After a meeting which he held with the U.S. ambassador in Cairo, Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali said:

[Begin recording] Instructions were sent to our permanent representative at the United Nations, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, to discuss the possibility of the UN forces' participation and to contact UN Security Council members in this respect. Instructions were also sent to our ambassadors abroad--in the countries represented at the United Nations. I will also summon the ambassadors whose countries are members of the UN Security Council in order to discuss the possibilities of their voting in favor of using UN forces. All of these events come as part of our moves to have the UN forces participate. This is our first priority in implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. [end recording]

Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali also noted that he will meet again with the U.S. ambassador next Wednesday in order to evaluate the situation with regard to the formation of the UN forces. He added that these forces will follow Israel's withdrawal from the Egyptian territories in keeping with the peace treaty.

On the other hand, the U.S. ambassador has stated that his meeting today with Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali was a continuation of the discussions held by the U.S. secretary of state in Cairo in order to coordinate attitudes related to the formation of the UN forces in the light of the contacts held between Egypt and the United States and a number of states. He added that when the U.S. secretary of state returns to Washington he will brief Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the outcome of his tour to the Middle East region.

GHALI MEETS WITH VAN DER KLAAUW IN GENEVA 9 APR

NC091558 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Geneva, 9 Apr (MENA)--During his meeting in Geneva today with Netherlands Foreign Minister and EEC Chairman van der Klaauw, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali reviewed the international situation and the developments related to the peace efforts in the Middle East.

The Netherlands minister, in his capacity as EEC chairman, expounded on his international contacts aimed at completing the European initiative. These contacts included his visit to the United States and his meeting with the U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig as well as his meetings with a number of officials in the Middle East. Mr van der Klaauw also briefed Dr Butrus Ghali on the elements and components of the European initiative, in ancitipation of his forthcoming visit to Cairo this month.

During the meeting Dr Butrus Ghali explained the situation with regard to the establishment of the international emergency forces and the multinational forces in the Sinai. He also explained the negative effects of Israel's despotic measures--including the establishment of new settlements and the new canal linking the Mediterranean with the Dead Sea. These measures constitute an impediment to peace.

Dr Butrus Ghali said that Israel would have done better to carry out measures that would build confidence in the West Bank or the Gaza Strip--measures that would no doubt lead to an atmosphere of better understanding in order to promote the peace process which would include the participation of the Palestinians therein.

As is known, Dr Butrus Ghali is currently in Geneva to attend the international conference for aiding African refugees. The conference is being organized by the United Nations and has started its work today.

PAPER VIEWS HAIG TRIP, REPROACHES SAUDIS, JORDAN

NC100932 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 10 Apr 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit to the Middle East, AL-JUMHURIYAH today says: The U.S. secretary of state, Alexander Haig, visited Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. In Egypt Haig heard clear talk and specific answers. He saw an integrated strategy for peace and security. In Amman and Riyadh Haig heard inapplicable solutions. The paper adds that Haig left the Arab world with an impression that some of his aides revealed. This impression is that the moderate Arab states he visited--Jordan and Saudi Arabia--do not have alternative plans or strategies to the Egyptian strategy for peace; the paper stresses that this is the crisis among the so-called moderate Arab states.

AL-JUMHURIYAH then says: Syria, Libya, the PLO and the other Arab regimes that are partial to the Soviets have led the campaign of rejecting the Egyptian peace initiative and efforts. They have no alternative other than the Soviet alternative--stronger ties with the Soviets and permitting them to strengthen their presence and influence in the Arab land. This means that the Arab question would remain unresolved for another 30 years.

AL-JUMHURIYAH continues: The moderate Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan, are not partial to the Soviets and they do not accept the Soviet presence. They are fully aware that the Arab rejection of the Egyptian peace efforts is being forced by Moscow. On this basis, these moderate states could have played an important role that would have added to their value.. They could have concentrated their efforts, for example, on exerting pressure in order to obtain for the Arabs more than what Egypt has obtained. Egypt would have welcomed this. In conclusion, AL-JUMHURIYAH expresses its regret that the moderate states have opted to give up the opportunity given them to play this role and that they have joined the bandwagon of the rejectionists, either by force or out of fear.

APPREHENDED 'TERRORIST GROUP' LINKED TO PFLP

NC091755 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Today the Higher State Security Prosecution Department, under the supervision of Attorney General (Raha' al-'Arabi), continued its investigations in the case of the terrorist group which was arrested recently. Our correspondent (Al-'Azab at-Tayyib) reports:

[Begin recording] Investigations have revealed that two Palestinian organizations, the PFLP, led by George Habash, and the Popular Demcratic Front, led by Nayif Hawatimah, trained the terrorist organization which belongs to a secret terrorist organization in Beirut and which was sent to Egypt to carry out acts of sabotage and destruction in a number of vital institutions.

It has been found out that the main defendant in this case, a man named (Khalil 'Abd al-Fadhil), was hiding material used in manufacturing explosives. His wife confessed that he had asked her to hide quantities of powder. She, however, informed about their existance and they have been located.

Last Monday five members belonging to this group were apprehended. The day before yesterday three others were arrested. The prosecution will continue its investigations in order to ascertain the defendants' actions. The investigations will be concluded next week. [end recording].

NONALIGNED COMMITTEE LEAVES FOR TEHRAN 10 APR

JN100815 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0756 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 10 Apr (INA)—The nonaligned ministerial committee on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict left for Tehran this morning. In a press statement the committee expressed happiness with the results of its visit to Iraq and said that it was ready to contribute to the efforts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and apply the principles of nonalignment. The committee added that it had acquainted itself with the Iraqi Government's stand and assessment of the situation.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 301

JN091637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Apr (INA)--Today, the Iraqi Armed Forces dealt severe blows to the Persian military targets in the Ilam area.

Communique No 301 issued by the Armed Forces General Command today said that during the last 24 hours, the valiant Iraqi Armed Forces' fighters killed 124 Persians and destroyed 3 infantry positions, 1 tank, 6 guns of various calibers, 4 vehicles, 3 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts. The following is the text of Communique No 301:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant army fighters continue to deal blows to the ignorant Persian enemy in the operations sectors. The following is the outcome of the activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A force of our armored units attacked an enemy concentration in the Gilan-e Gharb area, killing 47 and destroying 1 gun and 1 vehicle. Our units also pounded enemy positions and personnel in the same area, inflicting the following losses: 19 dead, 3 infantry positions, 1 gun, 1 vehicle and 1 observation post.
B. Eight were killed and one stockpile of hardware was destroyed in the Shush area.
C. One of our units clashed with an enemy unit consisting of armored cars and infantry and supported by artillery in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. Our unit forced the enemy to retreat after sustaining losses of 31 dead, 3 guns and 1 vehicle loaded with hardware.
D. One observation post was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
E. Our units pounded enemy concentrations in the Abadan area, inflicting the following losses: 19 dead, 1 tank, 1 gun, 1 vehicle, 1 excavator and 2 stockpiles of hardware.
F. Our capable forces dealt severe blows to enemy military targets in Ilam today.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 124 dead, 3 infantry positions, 1 tank, 6 guns of various calibers, 4 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and 3 stockpiles of hardware.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 14 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two tanks and one vehicle were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 April 1981

MEMO SENT TO ARAB LEAGUE ON SYRIA-IRAN COLLUSION

JN100855 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Tunis, 10 Apr (INA)--Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has received a written memo from Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi on the Syrian regime's participation in the attack on an Iraqi air base. The memo, which Dr Hammadi asked to be circulated to the Arab member countries, explained that this Syrian conduct constitutes a violation of the Arab League and UN Charters.

The memo pointed out that Iraq reserves the right to take any measures to protect its soil and its national and pan-Arab security against the aggression of the Syrian regime, which is allied with the Iranian regime.

The memo, which was conveyed to Klibi by 'Abd as-Sattar 'Abd al-Jabbar, chief of the Arab Department in the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, contains technical evidence confirming that the Iranian planes attacked Iraqi territory from Syrian territory.

IRANIANS REPORTEDLY TRAINING IN SYRIAN CAMP

JN051649 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 5 Apr 81

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Apr (INA)--Hafiz al-Asad's regime is using a military camp in the Az-Zabdani region as a base to train Iranian elements. In a broadcast monitored here tonight, the Voice of Arab Syria radio said that these mercenaries are participating with the Persian enemy and Khomeyni guards in their aggression against Iraq. The radio added that Al-Asad's As-Sa'iqah organization and Nayif Hawatimah's democratic front [Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine] are supervising the training of these mercenaries.

In another development, the radio said that Hafiz al-Asad has issued a decree giving these Iranian elements the right to possess property and engage in trade in Syria. The radio explained that these measures come within the framework of the Syrian regime's hostile policy against the Iraqi people in their pan-Arab battle to regain the Arabs' rights to their waters and usurped land.

ABORTIVE ATTEMPT ON SADDAM HUSAYN REPORTED

JN021830 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Based on information received from Zakhu, the first branch of our party reported that during criminal Saddam Husayn's visit to Zakhu, four students tried to hurl a handgrenade at his car near the customs department in Zakhu. Unfortunately, the bomb was discovered during a search. The sentence of death by firing squad was carried out against the students.

AL-QASIM RETURNS FROM BAGHDAD, MAKES STATEMENT

JN092208 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim returned to Amman from Baghdad this evening after a brief visit to fraternal Iraq during which he conveyed an oral message to President Saddam Husayn from His Majesty King Husayn. The message deals with the latest developments in the Arab situation. Al-Qasim met during the visit with Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi. In an arrival statement to the JNA correspondent, Al-Qasim said: Out of the importance Jordan attaches to the continued consultations with the brothers at this time, which requires confirmation of Arab unity to confront the fateful challenges, I met with Brother Dr Hammadi and reviewed with him the critical situation and the dangers threatening our Arab nation. He added: I have also acquainted Dr Hammadi with the realistic dimensions of Israel's new aggression, represented by implementing its plan of digging a canal linking the Mediterranean with the Dead Sea, and this aggression's political, economic and demographic impact on the area.

He added: We also discussed the latest developments in Lebanon. We stressed the need to intensify joint Arab action in order to help fraternal Lebanon overcome its ordeal, to find the suitable means to save Arab blood, to return Lebanon to its Arab position and to confront all the serious attempts aimed at partitioning Lebanon. We also stressed the need to intensify endeavors to maintain Lebanon's national unity and to support the Lebanese authorities in order to enable them to freely implement their presence and legality. We discussed Israel's recent threats to Lebanon. The current events and conflicts in Lebanon would undoubtedly give justification to Israel to expand its aggression against southern Lebanon. We also reviewed the recent international moves in the area to find a solution for the Middle East conflict. I reiterated the declared and clear Jordanian stand on any proposal to solve this conflict. We are confident that any lasting and comprehensive peace acceptable to us should be based on Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the guarantee of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to determine their future on their national soil under the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative.

RIF'AT AL-ASAD REPORTEDLY STRENGTHENS POSITION

JN091835 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Reports from Damascus say that signs of a clearly deepening disagreement and misunderstanding between Rif'at al-Asad and his brother Hafiz al-Asad have started to surface. The same reports say that a prominent sign of disagreement is the sudden departure of Rif'at al-Asad last month and his stay in the city of Latakia. Reports also say the disagreement came as a result of President al-Asad's response to intelligence heads' views that terrorist actions carried out under the supervision of Rif'at al-Asad, particularly in Dubayy and the FRG, were not carefully studied and consequently did not achieve their targets, harming the image of the Syrian regime and its foreign relations.

Reliable sources in Damascus report stories on the settlement of the disagreement. One story says that President al-Asad has personally taken supervision of all Syrian intelligence departments in an attempt to stop his brother's intervention in Syrian political affairs. Another story says Rif'at al-Asad won the round against the heads of the intelligence organs and returned more powerful than before to take over all intelligence organs through a coordination office headed by Sulayman Jadid.

A real change reportedly happened in the intelligence departments and several chiefs have lost their powers and duties, including 'Ali Dub of military intelligence, who accepted this situation against his will, and Muhammad al-Khuli, head of air force intelligence, who refused to be under Rif'at al-Asad. Rif'at al-Asad retaliated by curtailing the powers of al-Khuli. He withdrew President Hafiz al-Asad's air force bodyguards, and replaced them with defense squads elements.

AMMAN CRITICIZES ROLE OF SYRIAN FORCES IN LEBANON

JN041721 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Apr 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] When the Syrian forces moved into Lebanon in 1976, they were supposed to be a deterrent force to stop the fighting between the different parties and to safeguard the unity of Lebanon and the Lebanese society. After some years it was clear to all that the fighting escalated with the introduction of the Syrian forces. These forces turned into a force of oppression, killing thousands of innocent victims over a period of 5 years without any consideration for women, old people or children, beginning with Tal az-Za'tar and ending with the city of Zahlah yesterday.

We understand that there were and still are parties fighting in the Lebanese arena. We understand that no force can remove this or that force from Lebanon. These forces will continue to resort to arms in the absence of a dialogue or a force capable of reconciling the disputing factions peacefully in order to entrench the foundations of Lebanese national reconciliation. It is also understood that the Syrian forces are responsible, in the absence of the legitimate authority to control these factions, for this role of bringing the warring parties to the required reconciliation. The outcome of Syrian attacks with tanks, guns and rockets on Beirut and Zahlah during the past few days reveal that the Syrian forces are carrying out oppressive and not deterrent tasks, as is alleged by the Syrian factional regime to deceive the Lebanese and Arab people.

HAIG ACCUSED OF BRINGING PRECONCEIVED PRIORITY

JN100830 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 10 Apr 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the results of the Middle East tour made by the U.S. secretary of state, the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says: Apparently a lot of what the region was expecting from the U.S. secretary's visit has become even more remote than it was before this visit. From the beginning, the U.S. secretary of state was careful to keep his visit from falling into the wide gap that usually separates hope from action. From the beginning he stressed that he was not bringing any new plans for a settlement and that he was coming to the region on a fact-finding tour to sound out opinions before serious action is taken by the U.S. administration However, the impression that emerged is that the U.S. secretary of state came with a U.S. priority having precedence over everything else. He came to convince the Arabs that it is the Soviet danger, not the Israeli one, which is threatening the region's security, peace and future.

The results of Haig's visit to Tel Aviv differed from those which emerged from his visits to the other capitals. In Cairo he found total acceptance of his theory on the Soviet danger and also found a meeting of ideas on the proposed Western military facilities and presence. However, he did not find a guarantee for pushing his projects in the region. In Amman the U.S. guest once more heard Jordan's opinion, which calls for keeping the region away from international alliances and conflicts. He also heard Jordan's viewpoint on safeguarding the Gulf's security by proclaiming the area neutral and denying a need for any form of foreign military presence. Most important of all, Jordan stressed that the issue of Israeli aggression and its crime of occupation against our Arab nation and Palestinian people preoccupies Jordan and all Arabs.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: General Haig heard the same in Riyadh when the Saudi foreign minister asserted that the threat to the region is the Israeli danger and that the Arabs should confront it. Saudi Arabia rejected the call for any battle other than the pan-Arab one. News of this difference leaked out to the world press and information media, which continue to analyze it.

AL-WAZZAN MEETS DRAPER, MAKES STATEMENT 9 APR

NC091555 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan this morning met in his office with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper, who was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador in Beirut John Gunther Dean and the U.S. embassy charge d'affaires. The discussion dealt with the developments of the general situation in the area and in the south.

Upon departing government house, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan was asked about his meeting with the U.S. official. He answered: The meeting which has been held with Mr Draper in the presence of Ambassador Dean has been a useful meeting because it has given us the opportunity to learn about important aspects of Secretary Haig's tour of the area. Furthermore, this meeting has also afforded us the opportunity to expound viewpoints on the Lebanese situation, the situation in the area and the Palestinian issue in particular. I made a point of discussing all these issues in the total frankness which is required by the critical and serious phase through which we are passing and which indeed places us at a critical crossroads.

There can be no doubt that the international community, including the United States in particular, assumes a major responsibility under these circumstances. It is imperative that we face all those concerned with their responsibilities. I have felt that Mr Draper has fully understood the viewpoints which I have expressed, particularly as far as the situation in the south is concerned. On this latter score, we strongly insisted that moves should be made to prevent Israeli acts of aggression and that such moves be regarded a new touchstone of the stances taken by the international community in general and the United States in particular.

To a question about the security situation, the prime minister said: You have noticed the security situation has improved, because the parties concerned are abiding by the cease-fire request. This situation has been continuing since yesterday afternoon. We hope that this situation will continue and that we will benefit from this calm to continue to clear the atmosphere and to bring about self-restraint so common sense can prevail and so we can all work in deliberation and wisdom to ensure total relaxation. This relaxation would consequently relieve us of the worry we have experienced in the past few days. This relaxation would also restore stability for us. Consequently, we would be able to look for the immediate and radical solutions required for the problems from which the homeland is suffering. I hope that all those concerned will continue to adhere to the cease-fire so that the Lebanese could achieve the calm, security and stability for which they are aspiring.

ISRAELI 'LANDING OPERATION' IN SOUTH REPORTED

NC100646 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] In addition to the stabilization of security in Beirut and Zahlah, where the cease-fire has been holding since the day before yesterday, despite intermittent firing, officials will today also focus their attention on the situation in the south following last night's Israeli aggression.

The aggression was described as a wide-scale attack, with airborne and seaborne forces participating. The targets included a number of areas in the south. According to reports from the area, Israeli landing operations took place in (Ash-Shahabiyah), Zifta, Dayr az-Zahrani, abu al-Aswad, Sil'a and Dayr (Kifa). An-Nabatiyah, Al-Jarmuq, Ar-Rayhan, Al-'Ayshiyah, Al-Qasimiyah and Tyre and its suburbs came under artillery and rocket shelling. Israeli gunboats participated in the shelling.

There have not yet been any reports on the losses resulting from this agression, which began at 2010 with a helicopter landing operation in the Az-Zahrani area. The operation was resisted, particularly in Zifta (Ash-Shahabiyah), Sil'a and Dayr (Kifa).

It has also been reported that an enemy attempt to carry out a landing operation in the Al-Kufur area, near An-Nabatiyah, was thwarted. At 2130, an Israeli force, using dinghies, left an Israeli battleship and landed in Abu al-Aswad. It ambushed an armed car, wounding two passengers.

Supported by warplanes, Israeli helicopters at 1930 flew over Tyre, An-Nabatiyah, Sidon and along the coast from Tyre to Ad-Damur. Antiaircraft fire was directed at the helicopters, and it has been reported that one Israeli helicopter was hit and that four others removed the wounded.

Israel has admitted the landing operation. Israeli radio said at midnight last night that the Israeli Army had begun a wide-scale air and sea operation north of Tyre and in southern Lebanon, that Israeli gunboats had bombarded a number of villages, that units had been landed by helicopters and that a big battle had taken place on the Lebanese coast.

It is recalled that Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipouri visited the border area yesterday, where he told reporters: We are continuing our aid to the militias.

SKAF STATEMENT CALLS ON PEOPLE TO RESIST 'PLOTS'

NC101048 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Defense Minister Joseph Skaf today followed up his interest in the situation in the city of Zahlah and in the south. He was in constant touch with the army command and the security commands in order to follow up the measures taken to consolidate the cease-fire in Zahlah and the information available on the Israeli attacks in the south.

Minister Skaf made a statement in which he said: The plot to which our homeland has been subjected for years is continuing. Its links are now being implemented in the various areas now and then. Lebanon, which seeks peace and security, finds nobody in the world to help its salvation and hears only expressions of support and help. What is happening in Lebanon is basically the result of regional and international contradictions which erupt on the Lebanese arena. This is why we say that what is happening in Lebanon, particularly in the south, is an Arab and international responsibility, in addition to its being a Lebanese responsibility.

Skaf added: Lebanon is on a crossroad today. The Lebanese, who stood firm in the face of the ugliest plots, are called upon today to stand firmer in resisting these plots.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR VIEWS FRENCH ROLE IN SITUATION

NC091622 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Following a meeting with Minister Butrus, French Ambassador Delamare made a statement in which he said: I had applied for an appointment with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus to continue with him the talks which French presidential envoy Hubert Argod had held with Minister Butrus personally and with President Sarkis. These talks were held within the context of the diplomatic and humanitarian domains.

He was asked: Will a new French step be taken in the wake of Ambassador Argod's visit to Beirut? Delamare answered: You know that the French Government and President Giscard are following all these matters closely. They have sent Louis de Guiringaud to Damascus and Argod to Beirut. Therefore, it is natural that, in the diplomatic domain, our government keeps pace with all the steps whichare being taken in all directions.

Delamare said: Therefore, envoys have been sent and steps are being continuously taken through diplomatic channels in an attempt on our part to contribute to any balanced and reasonable solution to this problem. Personally, and in view of my presence in Beirut, I am as delighted as you are that the cease-fire has been in effect since yesterday.

Delamare was also asked: Is it true that France is prepared to raise the Lebanese issue at the UN Security Council if Lebanon submits an application to this effect: He answered: I believe that your question is somewhat premature. The reason is that your question actually constitutes two questions: First, if France is prepared to support a Lebanese application and, second if Lebanon will submit an application. In this instance, it is imperative that we realize that the question of approaching the United Nations is intricate and difficult and requires the approval of many states. This matter should be handled with great calm and considerable coolheadedness. Furthermore, first and foremost, one must determine what the Lebanese Government hopes and wants to achieve through this or that action. In light of the things which I have just said, we naturally stand prepared to support our Lebanese friends.

The following question was posed to Delamare: Has the question of raising the Lebanese issue at the Security Council been discussed or raised with President Giscard's envoy, Ambassador Argod? Delamare ansered: Ambassador Argod examined with the president of the republic, the foreign minister and the prime minister all diplomatic, humanitarian and factual aspects of the present crisis.

NATIONALIST-PALESTINIAN JOINT FORCE SAID FORMING

LD100845 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 8 Apr 81 pp 1, 23

[Correspondent's report]

[Excerpts] Beirut--One of the most important developments in the situation in Beirut during the past 24 hours was the meeting yesterday between the leadership of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian resistance leadership. At the meeting it was decided to launch immediately a series of measures to tackle the emergency situation and potential developments. AR-RAY AL'AMM has learned from official and reliable Palestinian and Lebanese Nationalist sources that one of the most important decisions taken was to form a military strike force for the Lebanese Nationalist Movement which, with the backing of Syria and the Palestinian resistance, could confront the Israeli-backed Phalangist forces. The idea behind this is also to prevent the impression that the battle is between Syria on one hand and a certain Lebanese community on the other. The sources said that it has been agreed to begin forming military units from the forces belonging to the Lebanese Nationalist parties, which are capable of providing the joint forces with combat units.

The sources said that the Palestinian resistance and Syria have pledged to provide arms and training to these forces so that they will be able to confront Pierre al-Jumayyil's forces and Sa'd Haddad's forces. Immediately after the meeting the Lebanese Nationalist Movement began a series of contacts with ex-servicemen from the Lebanese Army to persuade them to join this force. The movement will also contact nationalist officers in the Lebanese Army about participating in the Nationalist Movement's forces together with their soldiers, if the Lebanese Army continues to fight on the side of the secessionist forces against the Arab Deterrent Forces.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM has also learned that the Nationalist Movement has begun forming a security force to take care of the security situation in the nationalist areas.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM has further learned that Syria has informed the Nationalist Movement that it will cooperate with it to the greatest possible extent in order to maintain security and order in the nationalist areas.

On the other hand, AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM has learned that it has been decided to try to establish a broad national front so that all the nationalist parties, forces, and elements which have common ground can together confront the secessionist-Israeli schemes.

It is worth noting that the [Shi'ite] Amal Movement has announced that it will abide by all these resolutions and that it considers itself a faction of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. It said that it will not pursue its conflict and differences with all the nationalist forces in Lebanon, so as to stand united against the common enemy.

AL-JUMAYYIL DEMANDS UN 'GUARANTEE' SYRIAN ROLE

NC091629 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] In a comment on events Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said today that unless the UN Security Council guarantees the Syrian presence in Lebanon as well as its actions and practices and unless the Security Council really places this presence under sovereign Lebanese authority we will, from now on, not accept the continued presence in this way, regardless of the considerations and complications.

Given the freedom the Lebanese people have loved throughout the ages, Al-Jumayyil said, the current escalations in the Lebanese arena, particularly the stipulations we are hearing suggest that in the eyes of the Syrian side, Lebanon is a state within an empire or a district following the central government in Syria. All military and political practices in Lebanon so far affirm beyond all doubt that Syria's behavior toward Lebanon as a homeland, state and sovereign authority is one of a supreme ruler who alone holds the power to rule and make decisions. The leader of the Phalangists said: Here we must pause to say that even a mandate does not authorize an alien army to conduct operations of killing, shelling and destruction against helpless people.

Given this form of actions and practices in Lebanon, our national duty and conscience will not allow us from now on to tackle major national questions by sedatives or statements on stalling and prevarications. Moreover, we also reject the continued presence on the borrowed forces, unless the big powers and the Security Council member states guarantee their presence according to a frank resolution.

HADDAD COMMENTS 10 APR ON CEASE-FIRE IN ZAHLAH

NC100901 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Commenting on various topics, free Lebanon commander Major Haddad said the following:

1. We are pleased with the report that the cease-fire is holding in Zahlah and eastern Beirut. We hope that it will continue and that, as a result, the withdrawal of the invading Syrian forces will be expedited not only from the outskirts of Zahlah but also from all Lebanon. On this occasion I must address a message of admiration and appreciation to the heroic sons of Zahlah who have taught the aggressors a lesson that they will never forget in their military life and history. On the other hand, and following the international support for the position of Zahlah township, we hope, Major Haddad said, that the 'Alawite rulers will understand that their presence in Lebanon is no longer desirable in the local and world spheres and that, as a result, they must voluntarily withdraw from Lebanon before they are forced to do so.

2. The hired trumpets of the so-called National Movement have begun to spread news about an alleged plan to link the township of Zahlah with free Lebanon through Jazzin. For our part, we reveal to public opinion that the primary and final aim of such news concentrated in particular on the township of Jazzin is merely to cover up what these sides will be doing in agreement with the Syrians. It also aims at starting the harassment of the inhabitants of Jazzin with a view to vacating the township. These cheap propaganda methods no longer hide their aims from anyone. Those who claim to be in charge of responsibility in Lebanon, Major Haddad said in conclusion, must hasten to tackle the matters before they occur.

LEBANESE PARTY LEADERS MEET AL-ASAD, DEPART

JN091941 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] At 1400 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], and Muhsin Dallul and Dawud Hamid, PSP command members. Talks revolved around the security and political situation in Lebanon and the recent incidents there. An analysis was made of the meanings and objectives of the incidents. Stress was placed on the importance of concerted efforts by all sincere people in Lebanon to foil the hostile scheme that is aimed against Lebanon's unity and that serves Israel's interests.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, also received Walid Junblatt and his delegation. The two sides held talks on the developments in Lebanon.

Walid Jublatt, PSP leader; Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, secretary general of the Independent Nasirite Movement--Al Murabitun; and the delegation of the Lebanese National Salvation Front in southern Lebanon left Damascus this evening at the end of a visit to Syria during which they met with President Hafiz al-Asad and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. They were seen off by Khaddam and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

In a predeparture statement to SANA, Walid Junblatt condemned the Phalangist gangs' practices, which are aimed at establishing an advanced citadel in Zahlah that will serve as an extension of the isolationsist-Zionist line the south for the sake of confusing and besieging Syria in order to peddle the capitulatory solutions in the region. He added that his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad dealt with the need to remove the isolationist military presence in Zahlah, which is basically directed against Syria, the nationalist forces in Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution. He pointed out that the nationalist forces in Lebanon are required more today than ever before to unify their efforts and consolidate their militant cohesion with Syria in order to confront the fateful challenges facing our Arab nation, Junblatt praised the national and pan-Arab role played by the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Zahlah and other areas in Lebanon, stressing the legitimacy of their presence for the sake of establishing peace and reassuring the Lebanese people. In conclusion Walid Junblatt condemned the information clamor about the ADF's tasks in Lebanon by the isolationist-Phalangist circles. He stressed that it was the Phalangist gangs which ignited the recent incidents in Lebanon and continued the aggression against the ADF, thus carrying out the Zionist and isolationist schemes in the region.

Ibrahim Qulaylat, secretary general of the Independent Nasirite Movement--Al-Murabitun, also made a statement in which he said that the Lebanese nationalist forces' relationship with Syria is a relationship of joint pan-Arab objectives based on the confrontation of the Camp David accords and their partners, who conspire against our Arab nation's rights. He added that Syria is the direct and forward confrontation line against this nation's enemies and the agent reactionary Arab regimes revolving in their orbit. Brother Qulaylat condemned the Phalangist gangs' acts and fabrication of clashes with the ADF with the purpose of oiling the ADF's national and pan-Arab mission in Lebanon. He pointed out that the agent Phalangist practices against the ADF complement the imperialist and Zionist schemes against Syria and its pan-Arab stands with a view to tightening the grip around Syria in order to peddle the capitulatory solutions in the Arab region. Brother Qulaylat concluded his statement by condemning on behalf of all nationalist forces in Lebanon the Phalangist gangs' practices and their conspiratorial trend against Syria and our Arab nation's rights.

SHAMIR INTERVIEWED ON U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

TA100915 Jerusalem POST in English 10 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[By Robert Rosenberg]

[Text] The U.S. is reassessing its view that the Syrian presence in Lebanon is a stabilizing force, according to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

In an interview with the Jerusalem POST, Shamir said that during his visit here this week, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig conducted a major review of American policy in this region, with specific attention given to the Lebanese situation.

The Syrian offensive against Christian enclaves in Lebanon had made a deep impression on Haig, Shamir reported.

Shamir said that the U.S. is in fact putting together a "revolutionary" policy which will ask states in this region to put aside local differences to face the Soviet threat.

Shamir also said that Israel has no intention of orchestrating a campaign against the U.S. sale of AWACS surveillance planes to Saudi Arabia.

"We have forcefully expressed our opinion on the subject; we have said we believe the AWACS are dangerous in the hands of the Saudis," said Shamir. "We oppose the deal. But we will not go to 'war' against the U.S. administration, a friendly administration."

Expressing strong doubts about whether Haig could persuade the Saudis to moderate their anti-Israel vehemence, Shamir again said that it is not Israel's function to tell its supporters what to do. "We don't give advice to our friends in Congress, or to Sen. Henry Jackson," Shamir stated.

While the emphasis in U.S.-Israel relations has been on the "strategic asset" basis during the recent past, Shamir said that the U.S. has not exchanged the moral commitment of the past for a colder, strategic commitment of the present.

"Haig spoke of the 'permanent alliance' and such an alliance requires more than the momentary strategic concerns," said Shamir. "Interests of governments can change, but the moral commitment of the American people, identifying with our common democratic ideals, is too deep to change," he said.

The foreign minister appeared to have been persuaded during the U.S. secretary's 23-hour visit here early this week, that Washington's commitment to Israel is firmer than ever.

"This is a friendly administration--more friendly than previous ones," he said.

The eagerness with which Israel appears to be seeking a role in Haig's Middle East strategic alignment raised the question that perhaps Israel will be put into the kind of proxy role that Haig described between the Soviet Union and Syria.

"Heaven forbid," said Shamir. "We will never serve as proxies of anybody."

But Shamir confirmed that there is an idea to station U.S. material in Negev air base warehouses in case of an emergency that would involve U.S. troops flying into the region. He said that according to that idea, Israel could make use of the material "in case of an emergency."

"Haig was very impressed, very encouraged with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat," said Shamir, who confirmed that Haig had compared As-Sadat's enmity to Israel of five years ago to the Saudi enmity, arguing that the Cairo-Jerusalem rapprochement could happen with Saudi Arabia.

"One day, perhaps in 10 years' time, the Saudis will finally recognize us as a fact, just as As-Sadat did. But a change doesn't come overnight."

Returning to U.S.-Israel relations, Shamir said that there have been no cuts in next year's Washington aid budget to Israel, and that Jerusalem is expecting "eased terms of repayment of loans, new types of loans, changed interest rates.

"They're showing understanding," said Shamir of Washington's view of Israel's economic troubles.

Denying that Israel was asked to lower is voice about Saudi extremism to help Haig in his efforts to moderate the Saudis, Shamir said that Israel would "do everything possible to advise and coordinate with the U.S." but he said, "there's nothing Israel can do to help the U.S. in its efforts vis-a-vis Saudi Arabia."

"There's no negation between coordinating strategy and independence," said Shamir. He regretted that Israel does not belong to any regional alliance framework, such as NATO, SEATO, or the OAS.

"Participation in such organizations does not hamper a country's independence," he said.

Emphasizing the friendliness of the Reagan administration, Shamir recalled that Haig had promised that the new Washington administration would "never criticize friends in public."

Shamir sounded convinced that the U.S. would help Israel maintain what Haig called the "qualitative edge" over its Arab enemies.

"It was a promise," Shamir said.

On the subject of south Lebanon, Shamir said Israel is not interested in seeing conflict between UNIFIL and the Christian forces under the command of Maj Sa'd Haddad.

But, he said, "it's very difficult to prevent Haddad-UNIFIL conflicts, because of the PLO presence in south Lebanon."

"The Haig visit was really only the beginning," said Shamir. Denying there's yet any master plan for the orchestration of the anti-Soviet policy Washington wishes to implement, Shamir said that the detailed discussions of a strategic dialogue will take place in as yet unformed frameworks.

TZIPORI SAYS AWACS DECISION WORTH CONFRONTATION

TA091215 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Apr 81 p 1

[By Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] "We have informed the Americans, including Secretary of State Alexander Haig, that, in view of the decision to supply Saudi Arabia with AWACS planes, something that may cause grave security damage to Israel, we will chance a confrontation and appeal to Israel's friends in Congress, the White House and U.S. public opinion," Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said in a conversation with HA'ARETZ.

The deputy defense minister said the decision to supply Saudi Arabia with AWACS planes was grave for Israel from the security aspect and it was impossible simply to accept it. Such planes held by a hostile country, both in times of calm and in wartime, could cause Israel severe security damage, Mr Tzipori said. This is the opinion of all the experts. We expressed this position to the United States during the visit there by the delegation I headed. This position was also expressed here in Israel to Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

We had to tell the guest this, since we intend to chance a confrontation against the decision to sell AWACS to the Saudis.

In reply to a question, Mr Tzipori said that the Americans had tried to calm us down on the matter of the AWACS planes and, among other things, had explained that the planes would only be handed over to the Saudis in another 5 years and that the crews who would operate the planes would be partly American. These soothing words do not change anything, Mr Tzipori said, since the weapons, in the end, will be in the possession of the Saudis. This is also how matters began with the F-15's and promises were broken as though they had never been made. Israel has no choice but to fight against the U.S. administration's decision on this matter and we have already appealed to various friends to help us on it.

Mr Tzipori commented that, apart from this, the most positive decisions had been achieved in talks with the secretary of state. During his own visit to the United States he had also found great willingness by the Americans to move toward Israel. Among other things, Mr Haig had promised that the Americans would purchase equipment and spare parts in Israel for a total of $200 million. The next stage, according to Mr Tzipori, will be the establishment of working groups who will discuss several issues, such as: licenses for Israeli exports to Third World countries, grants and loans to Israel, and giving the Americans various services in the field of maintenance and so on.

TZIPORI AVOWS CONTINUED AID TO LEBANON CHRISTIANS

TA091718 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Israel will continue to aid the Christians in Lebanon both with physical means and with political support so that they can defend themselves. These remarks were made this morning by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori on a tour in the north. Menahem Horowitz, our correspondent in the north, brings us Mordekhay Tzipori's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Tzipori] There is no doubt that we will continue to give support to the Christians: A) political support, certainly; B) we will continue to aid them with physical means so that they can defend themselves.

[Horowitz] In reaction to remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Haig, who supports the movement of a Lebanese Army southward, the deputy defense minister said reference is to Lebanese soldiers' movement to the area of the iron triangle, which is given to UNIFIL control and which has lately been penetrated by many terrorists.

[Tzipori] At the moment it does not seem to me it is the U.S. intention--and I will not elaborate on this--that the Lebanese Army will display involvement in the area which is in fact controlled by Major Haddad, by the Christians and the Shi'ites, who are part of Lebanon's forces and are in no need of the outside Lebanese force to help them handle their already well-handled affairs. It is clear to the Americans and to everyone else that Israel stands behind this status quo and will give it the necessary backing. [end recording]

IDF RAIDS 'TERRORIST BASE' NORTH OF AN-NABATIYAH

TA100506 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Last night an IDF force operated against a terrorist base northeast of An-Nabatiyah, north of the Galilee panhandle. The IDF spokesman reported that the base, including buildings, vehicles, ammunition depots and two tanks, were destroyed in the operation. Several terrorists were killed. Our forces sustained two casualties. The spokesman noted that the operation took place within the framework of the preventive operations carried out by the IDF to foil terrorist activities.

Further Details

TA100602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0515 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal--recorded]

[Text] Last night the IDF operated against the terrorist base located near the village of 'Arab Salim north of the Zahrani River, about 16 km northwest of Metulla. The base is located in an area in which the terrorist organizations, particularly the Fatah and Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front, maintain the vast bulk of their forces. On the site were some 40 to 50 terrorists, trucks equipped with machineguns, bunkers, tents and two T-34 tanks which had been recently transferred to the area to strengthen the terrorists' deployment.

At the end of the operation, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan told us that until last night, the IDF had only once before attacked tanks.

[Eytan] Last night was the first time that, through our own initiative, we have attacked terrorist tanks stationed in their strongholds. Attacking tanks with infantry forces is a very complicated matter. In the Yom Kippur war we carried out such an operation in the Golan Heights. Never before nor afterward have operations of this kind been carried out; this is the first time that we carried out this sort of operation. [sentence as heard]

[Tal] The chief of staff said that the IDF force had achieved all the goals it had set out for itself in spite of difficulties. The chief of staff added that maybe now the terrorists would be compelled to pull back the tanks they had moved toward the enclave.

[Eytan] This kind of operation should destroy the self-confidence the terrorists had tried to gain by acting as a regular army, that is, with tanks, strongholds, alignments. That type of deployment is not typical of terrorist organizations. We are destroying their self-confidence by means of such operations.

[Tal] The commander of the Northern Command, Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal, said four terrorists had been killed and the tanks and buildings had been destroyed. He added that the success of an operation is not measured by the number of casualties but rather by the level and the quality of the operation as well as the success of the force in achieving the goals set out for it. [end recording]

Casualty Report

TA100931 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Our military correspondent has learned from the debriefing of the IDF soldiers who participated in last night's raid against a terrorist base in Lebanon that five terrorists were killed and three injured in the operation.

AIR FORCE ATTACKS 'TERRORIST BASES' 10 APR

TA100904 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] About 1 hour ago Israeli Air Force planes attacked terrorist bases in the area of (Ra's as-Saydat). All our planes returned safely to their bases. The IDF spokesman said that the pilots reported accurate hits. The spokesman noted that the attack was designed to prevent terrorists from organizing and to foil their acts of sabotage.

LABOR CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCES SENIOR TEAM MEMBERS

TA091624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] In a news conference in Tel Aviv a short while ago Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres announced the list of the senior ministers he intends to include in his government if the Alignment wins the 10th Knesset elections. Let us go over to party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav, who is in the Alignment's campaign headquarters in Tel Aviv:

[Nadav] The surprise--to one degree or another--is that Professor Hayim Ben-Shahar is the candidate for the finance minister's post in an Alignment government. Let us hear Shim'on Peres:

[Begin recording] [Peres] I intend to suggest to the party's center that Professor Hayim Ben-Shahar will be the candidate for the finance minister's portfolio in an Alignment government. Professor Ben-Shahar proved his talents and ability as the president of the Tel Aviv university, as both a man of the academic world and a man of deeds...

[Nadav--interrupts recording] The candidate for the deputy finance minister will be Naftali Blumenthal. The third in the economic team, as expected, is Gad Ya'aqobi, who is a candidate for the commerce, industry and tourism portfolio. Abba Eban is the candidate for the foreign minister and Hayim Bar-Lev is the candidate for the defense minister.

At the moment journalists are trying to interview Professor Hayim Ben-Shahar but he firmly refuses to talk about his economic plans as an alternative to current Finance Minister Yoram Aridor's policy. It is promised by the Alignment's campaign headquarters that this will still follow.

MA'ARIV PLACES BLAME FOR 'FAILURE' OF ELECTIONS

TA081255 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Apr 81 p 5

[Editorial: "The Scale Was Not Tipped"]

[Text] There is no room for celebrations, either in the Alignment camp or within the Likud ranks. Nothing decisive has occurred and the Histadrut electorate did not provide any clear-cut indications.

On the contrary, to a large extent everything remains the same. The Alignment has again gathered in its camp most of the voters who had turned to the Democratic Movement for Change in the last elections; the Likud has retained almost all the strength it mustered in 1977 at the peak of its success--there was neither a landslide nor a failure.

The few percent that moved from the Likud to the Alignment are absolutely disproportional to the cries of victory at the Alignment headquarters last night. One should not forget that for some months the polls have been showing a decisive rise in the Alignment's electoral strength and a large decline in the support for the Likud.

Only recently, in the last 2 or 3 months, has the Likud shown signs of recovery. According to several polls the Likud was to have lost over half the strength it had 4 years ago whereas other polls indicated that the Likud was to have lost not less than two-thirds of its past strength.

So far, the returns are far from confirming such a picture. Undoubtedly, the Likud's strength has been eroded after 4 years in power. The inflation which reached unprecedented rates, the unemployment which spread in the north and elsewhere and created pockets of poverty, the ambiguous economic policy and the increasing distress among the low social strata all should have emerged more prominently in the elections. Those who were hurt by the Likud's bad economic policy were mainly people who are members of the Histadrut. The social gaps widened, thus the organized workers should have been the first to react. Apartments became so expensive that only the rich could afford to buy a house for themselves and their children, thus bitterness should have mainly been felt in the Histadrut.

If despite all these factors the Likud only suffered a slight decline in the Histadrut elections, that means that a vast part of the public--including salaried employees and people with low incomes--have not yet decided to turn its back on the Likud and hand over power to the Alignment. On the contrary, there are many hesitations. Options remain open and the polls apparently reflect deep bitterness and rather strong determination.

There is no doubt that the Alignment has risen. However, the rate of its rise does not justify jubilation. The DMC that mustered about 8 percent of the Histadrut election votes in 1977 was a meteoric phenomenon. It disappeared without leaving any traces. The DMC voters "returned home" to the Alignment which they had forsaken.

Nevertheless, there is as yet no indication that the Likud voters moved en masse to the Alignment's camp. Such a move may emerge in the elections for the 10th Knesset but it did not take place yesterday.

The Alignment should also be concerned about the considerable apathy shown by the electorate. The steep decline in the number of voters not only reflects the sparse efforts the rivals invested in this experimental contest but also a possible reaction to the situation and the little confidence both the Likud and the Alignment inspired in the electorate members who opted to stay home.

The abstainees formed a large group yesterday--about 40 percent of the voters. This group should be the main target of the Alignment and the Likud in the elections for the 10th Knesset.

People who do not bother to vote either because it is not easy to make a decision or because they do not care all that much or because they do not believe that their vote will cause significant change--these people weaken the Israeli democracy. By abstaining, these people actually express their lack of confidence in the two large poltical camps.

The Alignment and the Likud are jointly to blame for the failure of these elections. Both parties share responsibility for countering the electorate's apathy, particularly now that the parties are getting ready for the main contest whose outcome is still not certain at all.

MAURITANIA

DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA REPORTED

Bneijara to Visit

AB100948 Paris AFP in French 0744 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 10 Apr (AFP)--The Mauritanian prime minister, Mr Sidi Ahmed Ould Bneijara, is to pay a working visit to Libya on Friday, it was learned from reliable sources in Nouakchott on Thursday. The head of the Mauritanian Government, who is accompanied by many members of the government, including the finance and foreign affairs ministers, will hold talks with the Libyans on strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

Observers in Nouakchott note that this visit will seal the final reconciliation between Mauritania and Libya after a short quarrel which took place between the two countries at the end of December last year. Last December, the Mauritanian Government, which accused Libya of subversive activities on its territory, expelled three Libyan diplomats, closed down that country's cultural center and arrested pro-Libyan Mauritanians, including the former Mauritanian representative at the United Nations, Ahmed Baba Miske. But last January, after the visit to Nouackchott by Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the misunderstanding was solved. The Mauritanian authorities ordered the reopening of the cultural center and released the pro-Libyan Mauritanians who were arrested.

For its part, Libya announced that a renewed impetus would be given to many Mauritania-Libya joint projects (agricultural and fishing enterprises), that its aid to Mauritania would be increased and that it would participate in the exploitation of Mauritania's copper.

Observers expect the Saharan problem to be discussed as well as the 16 March abortive coup in Nouakchott, which the Mauritanian leaders blamed on Morocco. It is recalled in this regard that Libya was one of the first countries to condemn this aggression and to give its support to the Mauritanian authorities. Recently, according to radio Mauritania, the head of the Libyan People's Bureau (embassy) in Nouakchott suggested to the Mauritanian prime minister the coordination of joint action to counter the propaganda of the hegemonistic regime in Morocco. But in spite of their readiness for economic cooperation with Libya, whose position has been strengthened by the events of 16 March, the Mauritanian authorities are reserved toward the political advances of Tripoli, and they want to maintain their attitude of strict neutrality on the Saharan conflict, observers note.

Libyan Aid Offer

AB081216 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, head of state and chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, yesterday afternoon received Mr (Jammah Triki), secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Nouakchott. After their discussions the Libyan diplomat disclosed to the Mauritanian press agency that he had delivered a written message to the head of state from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi; a message bearing on a number of problems facing the Arab world as well as international issues which are of common interest. The Libyan official added that he had also discussed with the head of state the present situation in the Arab world and in the world as a whole. He explained that they hold the same views on all the issues discussed.

On Libyan-Mauritanian cooperation, the Libyan diplomat stated that they had decided to strengthen relations between them and to exchange visits between officials of the two countries.

The official explained that he had expressed to the head of state the support of his countrymen and leaders for Mauritanians and their leaders in their struggle against Morocco's (?aggression) and expansionist policy.

Finally, he stated that his country is ready to assist Mauritania materially, politically and militarily.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI REACTS TO PROPOSAL OF MINISUMMIT ON CHAD

JN091606 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Apr (SUNA)--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has asserted that the Chadian issue is an issue of concern to the OAU. The OAU has entrusted the 12-man committee with the task of finding suitable means to successfully solve this issue. He said that since this committee is still carrying out its tasks, it is hard for Sudan to support any initiative far from the framework of the committee. This statement came in the written message President Numayri has sent to Nigerian President Shehu Shagari in reply to a message which his excellency received on 7 April. The message, in response to a proposal by Libya, dealt with the convocation of a minisummit in Lagos to discuss the Chadian issue.

In his message President Numayri asserted that this summit does not enjoy jurisdictions and powers from the OAU. He also said that what Libya aims at by its proposal is to remove the Chadian issue from its African framework and from the OAU in order to deal with it separately and to practice policies which completely contradict the OAU's aims and principles. President Numayri asserted that Libya is not earnest in withdrawing its forces from Chadian territory and that signs indicate its intention to implement a design which aims at continuing its occupation of Chad. This, he added, is manifested by supporting the Libyan Army in Chad with non-Libyan elements in several Chadian towns, particularly those near Sudan.

Numayri said that Libya's insistence on convening a minisummit will provoke suspicion, adding that Sudan believes that Nigeria is as concerned over achieving national unity in Chad as Sudan is.

Concluding his message, President Numayri said that despite the fact that a minisummit is not authorized by the OAU, Sudan is confident that Shehu Shagari will end the Libyan occupation of Chadian territory, which will lead to national reconciliation and peace in Chad. He added that this might happen on one condition--that this initiative remain within the framework of the Lagos agreement and the Lome summit resolutions.

ARAB COMMITTEE ON DISPUTE WITH LIBYA REQUESTED

JN081825 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Apr (SUNA)--Sudan has requested the Arab League for the formation of a factfinding committee for investigating the presence of military bases and facilities in Sudan or Libya, said today State Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani. The announcement came in response to Libyan memorandum alleging Sudan has offered military facilities to U.S. and normalized its relations with Egypt. Mirghani said the Arab League has already discussed the issue in a closed meeting for solidarity but Sudan and Egypt insisted on the set-up of the committee considering that settlement of problems should be carried out on solid bases.

ETHIOPIA

POLITICAL SEMINAR BEGINS IN ASMARA 8 APR

LD091108 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0330 GMT 9 Apr 81 EA

[Text] A seminar, attended by military commanders of the various sections of the northern command and by political leaders, opened in Asmara yesterday. The purpose of the seminar is to study ways and means of implementing the resolutions of the second ordinary session of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Central Committee. The seminar, which will last about 5 days, was opened at the Tensae Hall of the Asmara Palace and was addressed by Comrade Lt Col Demeke Fanta, head of the Political Department of the northern command and member of the COPWE Central Committee.

Lt Col Demeke Fanta said, on opening the seminar, this is a time when the broad masses and progressive forces have doubled their efforts to ensure the success of COPWE's mission and to attain a lasting victory. He added that, just as the revolutionary army had earlier been able to crush the class enemies of the broad masses, it was prepared again now to make an additional contribution by renewing its fighting capability, its unity of purpose and its discipline.

UGANDA

NAIROBI: MUWANGA ACKNOWLEDGES ARMY INDISCIPLINE

LD091052 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Apr 81 EA

[Text] President Obote's government in Uganda yesterday acknowledged for the first time that there is widespread indiscipline in the army and promised to crack down on soldiers found looting or harassing innocent civilians.

Uganda's vice president and defense minister, Mr Paulo Muwanga, told parliament that some offending soldiers have already been punished, although he did not say how. He said that army men are now working under a difficult situation, adding that the civilian attitude toward the army was not favorable.

Victims and witnesses have largely confirmed persistent reports of unpaid, underfed soldiers going on sporadic rampages, often killing civilians and looting their property.

The worst affected areas are the remote Madi area, in West Nile region, where hundreds are reported to have died at the army's hands, the north eastern province of Karamoja, and the suburbs of Kampala city. Yesterday morning a minor bomb explosion shattered the windows of the Indian Embassy in Kampala.

10 SPECIAL MEMBERS TO BE ADDED TO PARLIAMENT

AB092042 Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Kampala, April 9 (AFP)--The Ugandan parliament today passed a resolution opening the way for the ruling Uganda People's Congress (UPC) of President Milton Obote to make constitutional amendments. The resolution, passed despite strong opposition from the Democratic Party (DP), allows for the election of 10 special members to the parliament, which acts as en electoral college, and could give the UPC a vital two-thirds majority.

The new members will be elected by a majority of votes in the assembly, to bring the total number of members to 156. In today's voting the UPC majority, which already included 10 members nominated by Mr Obote and 10 army officers loyal to the president, rejected a DP proposal for proportional representation in the [word indistinct], which would have kept the UPC just short of the two-thirds votes it needs to carry out major constitutional reforms.

BURUNDI

CENTRAL COMMITTEE SETS ECONOMIC POLICIES

AB091205 Paris AFP in French 1030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Bujumbura, 9 Apr (AFP)--The Burundian Government will increase its procurement activity, the system of distribution, price control, promotion of internal trade and export promotion, it was stated in Bujumbura on Thursday. This economic policy was adopted by the Central Committee of the National Unity and Progress Party (UPRONA), which met under the chairmanship of the head of state, Mr Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, from 1 to 3 April. According to the party's secretary general, Mr Emile Mworoha, quoted by the Burundian Daily LE RENOUVEAU, the minister of commerce will see to it that the importation of strategic products, equipment, materials and products of basic necessity is programmed to avoid interruptions in supplies, which cause serious shortages. Measures will be taken to limit the issuing of foreign exchange for imports.

The Central Committee also examined the proposed constitution of the Republic of Burundi which is being drawn up by a constitutional committee.

CAMEROON

YAOUNDE COMMENTS ON CHESTER CROCKER'S AFRICAN TOUR

AB101015 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Station commentary: "Ronald Reagan's Global Diplomacy"]

[Text] After rhetoric, the head of the White House is now going into action. Like Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who has just returned from the Middle East and Europe, Chester Crocker, the assistant secretary of state for African affairs [as heard], has also begun an African tour to explain Ronald Reagan's point of view. And it is high time he did so.

After Reagan's support for South Africa, described as an abandoned [word indistinct] and the Angolan affair, some African leaders have been wondering and some of them have been worried. Ten years ago, the African Continent was controlled by the Western countries. But today the continent is extending its hands to the Soviets, and this is precisely because of the Americans. By supporting the white authorities in Rhodesia, South Africa, Angola and Mozambique, and by its persistent [words indistinct], as expected by the OAU, Washington has permitted Soviet penetration of Africa.

Today, the Western powers seem to be (?worried) about what they call Moscow's African strategy. This strategy consists of depriving the Western countries of the African Continent's resources and isolating them from the main oil supply sources by settling in the Horn of Africa, which overlooks the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea. This is essentially, what Mr Chester Crocker will present to his African interlocuters. But I am afraid he will be out of context, just as Alexander Haig was in the Middle East. What the Africans want is a precise and clear answer to America's position in southern Africa. To contain the Soviets is good, but it is the black African people's liberation that is uppermost in the minds of Africans.

It is high time Washington and Moscow learn that African nationalism will no longer allow white domination on our continent [word indistinct].

CONGO

TALKS WITH ALGERIAN PRESIDENT OPEN IN BRAZZAVILLE

LD091248 Algiers APS in English 1140 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Brazzavile, 9 Apr (APS)--Soon after President Chadli's arrival at Brazzaville airport where he was welcomed by Congolese President Denis Sassou-N'guesso yesterday, political talks between the two delegations began with a Chadli-Sassou-N'guesso tete-a-tete. In a speech by which he opened the talks, President Sassou-N'guessou insisted on "the exemplary character of the Algerian-Congolese relations and of the multiple ties uniting the two countries, and on their determination to reinforce bilateral cooperation beneficial to the two peoples."

The Congolese president also set in relief the identity of view on the present-day world problems and more particularly in Africa between the two countries. He evoked Congo and Algeria's attachment to South-South cooperation and praised Algeria's role on the international arena to reinforce non-aligned action to reduce world tension.

President Chadli Bendjedid, in reply, stated that Algerian-Congolese cooperation should be raised to the level of the two states' political will, and asserted the necessity of "inter-African and South-South cooperation as a preliminary to the success of North-South dialogue."

President Chadli Bendjedid called for a transformation of the present world economic order into a just and equitable one.

The Algerian president added that the moment has come for Africa to benefit from its own resources and develop cooperation to face "our principal enemy: poverty, ignorance and disease."

GABON

CREATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY MINISTRY ANNOUNCED

AB091657 Paris AFP in French 1437 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Libreville, 9 Apr (AFP)--The president of Gabon, Omar Bongo, announced on Wednesday to the members of the government, who were at the monthly council meeting, the creation of a Ministry of Public Safety which will be charged with the protection of citizens and their goods.

It is in response to the new outbreak of murders, armed robberies and other acts of banditry that the head of state made this decision, indicates the communique that was published at the end of the council session.

The communique also stresses that the head of state has reaffirmed his determination to give top priority during the course of the next 7 years to the building of roads. To this end, he asked the minister of public works to quickly put out a call for bids for the building of roads and to begin studies for cross-country roads which will run to the north and the south of the country. The communique states that the state will guarantee these investments thanks to special funds.

In other matters, the requirements for entrance to the national school of administration have been set at the level of a bachelor's degree or an equivalent diploma beginning with the 1981-1982 school year. Finally, the Council of Ministers has decided to organize a national agro-pastoral and forestry fair in August.

Libreville Comment

AB100836 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Excerpt] The Political Bureau of the Gabonese Democratic party, which met at the beginning of this year, expressed concern over the rising crime wave in Gabon and especially in Libreville, the capital. Security forces were therefore ordered to set up a system of checks and controls likely to eliminate this evil which is eating into our society. Since then, nothing concrete has been done and the same evil is now on the rise again. On Wednesday, the government, meeting under the chairmanship of President Omar Bongo, rose up against the high rate of crime in Gabon. Our country will soon get a Ministry of Public Security to deal with the whole phenomenon.

The question now is to learn who is killing whom and why? Some people attribute the crime to unemployment, that is, the lack of gainful employment; Gabonese tend to resort to illegal means to feed themselves. We hope this problem will soon be solved because the ministerial council has reiterated the need to give priority to nationals in employment.

It is also said that there is another factor in this new situation facing our country which should not be ignored, even though it might not be a real problem. There are currently three foreign nationals in Gabon for each Gabonese. Conclusion: Gabonese are more and more assured of getting employment. The ball is now in the court of those who have the authority to put a stop to this new plague.

ZAIRE

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TALKS WITH UGANDAN PRESIDENT

AB071349 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1247 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] Gbadolite, 6 Apr (AZAP)--At the end of discussions held in Gbadolite, capital of the Nord Ubangui subregion, Presidents Milton Obote and Mobutu Sese Seko have decided to revive the Zaire-Uganda joint commission very soon.

The joint communique issued at the end of the 24-hour visit of the Ugandan head of state to Zaire stresses the need to promote economic relations which are an indispensable basis for the development of Zaire and Uganda. In this regard, the two parties have decided to set up technical commissions specialized in transport and communications, commerce and mineral research.

Concerning security at their common borders, the communique states that Zaire and Uganda are aware of the importance of this problem, being indispensable to their stability. Regular consultations have been planned to preserve their good-neighbor relations.

The communique was signed for Uganda by Mr Picho Owiny, minister of foreign affairs and for Zaire by Citizen Bomboko Lokumba, first state commissioner and commissioner of state for foreign affairs.

President Obote left Gbadolite for Kampala by air on Monday at 1530. He was seen off by the founding chairman of the Popular Movement of the Revolution, MPR, and Mam Lobi Ladawa. President Mobutu's distinguished guest was accorded a very enthusiastic welcome by the MPR militants in the capital of the Nord Ubangui subregion.

GHANA

COMMENTARY EXAMINES AFRICAN REFUGEE PROBLEM

AB091427 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Station commentary by Daniel Crofi]

[Text] The African refugee problem stems from the political situation in most African states as well as from the struggle for independence. The refugees in the Sudan are there because of the fighting in the Eritrean region of Ethiopia. Until this war of secession is ended, the Sudan will continue to have this problem on her hands. In Zaire, where there is a large number of refugees, the main cause was the liberation struggle in Angola. With the independence of that country, one would have thought that the Angolan refugees would return to their country but the contrary is the case.

The internal political situation worsened by the rebellious attitude of Jonas Savimbi of UNITA, who wants a different political system for the country, has not allowed stability to enable the refugees to return to their homeland. In Somalia, refugees are there because of the war situation in Ethiopia and the border clashes with Ethiopia and Kenya. The obnoxious apartheid policies of the South African Government have driven thousands of Africans from the republic to neighboring states, thus creating problems for such countries.

Another area which has contributed to the African refugee problem is the economic situation in most of the countries. Without valid papers, some nationals flock to neighboring countries whose economies are better to seem their livelihood. Examples of such refugees can be found in Nigeria, the Ivory Coast and Kenya. Kenya also had other refugees because of the rule of the former Ugandan dictator, Idi Amin. With the overthrow of Amin, most of the Ugandans are still in Kenya because of the shattered Ugandan economy and reports of unstable security.

The effect of the presence of such refugees on the economies of the countries which provide them with shelter is enormous. The presence of the refugees overtaxes their scarce resources and social services. The inhuman environment of some of the refugee camps should shock the conscience of mankind into solving this problem as quickly as possible or at least eliminating some of the sufferings of the refugees.

It is unfortunate that the countries of the Eastern bloc have refused to attend the Geneva conference and to contribute to alleviating the suffering of the refugees and their host countries, on the pretext that the refugee problem is a by-product of decolonization. It must be pointed out that the refugee problem is both economic and human and if the socialist countries, which claim to be friends of Africa, cannot come to the aid of Africa in time of need, then wherein lies their proclaimed friendship? Apart from arms to fight liberation wars in southern Africa, what Africans need is essentially economic aid which can help to improve their economic well-being. It will be most desirable if the OAU would make a realistic effort to solve the refugee problems by working towards the elimination of the main causes. Strict adherence to the doctrine of noninterference in other nations' affairs encourages some governments to suppress their nationals and this contributes to the problem. The OAU should therefore find a way to help African countries to solve their internal political and economic issues. Therein lies the solution to the refugee problem.

COMMITTEE TO ADVISE GOVERNMENT ON PRICES, INCOMES

AB090708 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Until a high-powered commission on prices and wages is established by law, the Tripartite Committee will advise the government on policy matters relating to prices and incomes. The committee will do this with assistance of the office of the executive director of the Prices and Incomes Board.

This was the agreement reached yesterday at the special meeting of the Tripartite Committee at the castle under the chairmanship of the president, Dr Limann. The meeting was a followup of the one held last Monday between the government and the Trades Union Congress [TUC] on the congress' 48-hour warning strike.

A statement issued after yesterday's special meeting by the Tripartite Committee said the meeting discussed exhaustively the deferred question of the abolition of the Prices and Incomes Board and its replacement by a high-powered prices and general stabilization commission. The statement said during the discussion, President Limann drew attention to the fact that in his first sessional address to parliament in November 1979, he had himself already advocated the need for setting up a high-powered commission on prices and wages. According to the statement, the special meeting appointed a committee to work out the modalities for these interim arrangements and make concrete suggestions on the proposed high-powered commission on prices and incomes.

The statement issued by the Tripartite Committee was signed by the minister of labor and social welfare, Miss Adisa Mukaila; the secretary general of the TUC, Alhaji A.M. Issifu; and the president of the Ghana Manufacturers' Association, Mr Alfred Ghaisey.

Meanwhile, the TUC will hold an emergency executive board meeting today to formally report the outcome of its negotiations with the government so far to members.

TUC CALLS OFF PLANNED 48-HOUR WARNING STRIKE

AB100742 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] The Trades Union Congress, TUC, has called off the 48-hour warning strike which should have started next Tuesday. This followed an emergency meeting held in Accra yesterday by the board. The meeting said in view of the two statements issued jointly by the government and the TUC on the demands of the congress concerning the high cost of living in the country, the TUC has decided to call off the strike. The board said if the government violates the decisions reached, the congress will not hesitate to call a general strike by workers. The board emphasized that the decision to call off the strike does not in any way compromise its position in seeking the interest of workers.

LIBERIA

DOE WARNS 'BODYGUARDS' AGAINST HARASSING CITIZENS

AB071323 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] Head of State Master Sergeant Doe has warned that the PRC could dismiss and execute all soldiers assigned for members of the council as bodyguards who would be caught harassing or intimidating citizens and businessmen in the curfew. He said it was time for members of the council and men and women and all to engage in programs of bringing success to the people.

Speaking at the capitol building yesterday, where he had gone to confer with the vice head of state, Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen, Head of State Doe mandated Gen Weh Syen to take drastic measures against any bodyguard of council member who would continue to exhibit acts not compatible with the aims and objectives of the revolution. The head of state said he had instructed the armed forces commanding general, Thomas Quiwonkpa to reduce the number of soldiers assigned to the various councilmen to only one, with the exception of the cochairman, the speaker and the council's secretary general. He said he has continued to receive complaints from citizens and businessmen alike about the attitudes of soldiers assigned to councilmen and said anv businessman or citizen harassed bv soldiers could directlv contact his office for redress. He also emphasized that the popular revolution was to protect the rights of the people adding that if the people's rights are not respected by you, you would not live up to tell the story.

MALI

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TRAORE VISIT TO MAURITANIA

AB072120 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Communique issued following Malian President Moussa Traore's visit to Mauritania on 6 and 7 April 1981--read by Malian Foreign Minister Alioune Blondin Beye]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Military Committee for National Salvation, [CMSN] and head of state, His Excellency Gen Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM] and president of the Republic, paid a working and friendly visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania on 6 and 7 April 1981. His Excellency Gen Moussa Traore was welcomed upon arrival by His Excellency Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, CMSN Chairman and head of state and by His Excellency Ahmed Ould Bneijara, prime minister and head of the government. The residents of Nouakchott, who were mobilized, gave President Moussa Traore and his delegation a warm and enthusiastic welcome.

Both heads of state held discussions which were attended for Mali by His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Lt Col Sory Ibrahim Sylla, interior minister; His Excellency Mamadou Diawarra, Malian ambassador to Mauritania; Mr (Tidjani Disse), presidential diplomatic advisor and several other senior officials, and for Mauritania by His Excellency Ahmed Ould Bneijara, prime minister and head of government; His Excellency Ould Zamel, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; His Excellency Baham Ould Mohamed Laghdaf, minister of the interior; His Excellency Taki Ould Sidi, Mauritanian ambassador to Mali; Mr Sidi Mohamed Ould Abdourahman, advisor in the office of the CMSN chairman and several other senior officials.

During the talks, which took place in a frank and fraternal atmosphere of mutual understanding, both parties examined their bilateral relations and other issues of common interest. They exchanged views on developments in Africa and the world. They noted that their views were identical.

With regard to bilateral relations, the two delegations expressed their satisfaction with the existing strong ties and reiterated their determination to further strengthen them on the basis of mutual respect, interdependence and solidarity in order to fully satisfy the aspirations of their people who are united by age-old bonds of friendship, brotherhood, cooperation and good-neighbor relations. In this respect, the two sides agreed on the need for the Mali-Mauritania joint commission to hold its third session as soon as possible. They also agreed on the need for their interior ministers to hold regular meetings.

On subregional issues, the two heads of state reiterated their faith in the goals of the Senegal River Development Organization, [OMVS]; the West African Economic Community; the Inter-State Committee to Fight the Drought in the Sahel [CILSS], ECOWAS and the summit conference of the Sahel countries.

In this respect, both parties expressed their satisfaction at the forthcoming launching of construction work on OMVS dam projects.

Concerning the drought affecting all the Sahel countries, the two leaders expressed their great concern over the situation and are convinced that the implementation of the OMVS project is one of the positive solutions to water supply difficulties in the countries concerned. They reiterated the appeal made by the CILSS current chairman, Gen Moussa Traore, for the acquisition of urgent assistance to implement projects aimed at eradicating the effects of desert encroachment. Also, the two heads of state are satisfied with the solidarity committee and the fund created at the At-Ta'if Islamic conference to assist the Sahel countries.

Both countries expressed their faith in the establishment of greater regional and sub-regional economic organizations which constitute a crucial stage in the consolidation of African unity to which they reiterated their strong attachment.

They uphold the Lagos plan of action establishing the strategy for Africa's economic integration, and they expressed their hope that the people of the Third World will form a united front to defend their interests in all negotiations aimed at promoting an effective economic, social and cultural order which will be much more equitable and just.

With regard to the situation in Africa, both parties are concerned about increasing tension and appeal to all parties involved to strictly respect the principles of the OAU Charter, especially the principles of non-intervention in other states' affairs, respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of each state, the intangibility of the frontiers inherited from colonialization and the peaceful settlement of differences between states.

With regard to the situation in northwest Africa, the two heads of state expressed their great concern over the persistent tension in this part of Africa and its future effect on peace and stability in that region.

They reaffirmed the inalienable right of the Western Saharan people to self-determination and stressed the urgent need to implement the resolutions and decisions adopted by both the UN and the OAU aiming at a fair and lasting solution to the Western Saharan problem.

They strongly condemn the 16 March aggression against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Concerning Chad, both presidents expressed great concern over the situation in that country and their hope that a rapid and peaceful solution will be found in order to guarantee the territorial integrity, unity, peace and stability of that brotherly country.

With regard to the situation in southern Africa, the two leaders expressed satisfaction over the efforts being made within the framework of the United Nations, and they reaffirmed their adherence to the strict and immediate implementation of the measures providing for the accession of Namibia to independence in conformity with UN resolutions. They also reaffirmed their inalienable support for the brotherly people of Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO, their only representative.

They condemned the inhuman policy of apartheid and reaffirmed their total solidarity with the people of South Africa in their fight for their inalienable national rights and freedom.

With regard to the situation in the Middle East, the two delegations regretted the new wave of violence in Lebanon and they believed that any settlement of the Middle East conflict necessarily starts with the recovery of the occupied Arab territories, including Al-Quds, and the resettlement of the Palestinian people in their usurped fatherland. They pledged their constant support for the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their only representative.

The two delegations reiterated their adherence to the fundamental principles of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the Islamic Conference and the Non-aligned Movement, and they stressed the need to respect these fundamental principles in order to maintain peace, security, justice and progress in the world.

They pledged their determination to join efforts in the achievement of these targets.

The UDPM secretary general, Gen Moussa Traore, expressed his wholehearted gratitude to his brother and friend, Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, CMSN chairman and head of state, to the Mauritanian Government and people for the fraternal and particularly warm reception accorded him and his delegation.

The president of the republic, Gen Moussa Traore, invited his brother and friend Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala to pay an official visit to Mali. The Mauritanian head of state accepted the invitation with pleasure and the date will be set later through diplomatic channels.

[Signed] For the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, His Excellency Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, CMSN chairman and head of state; for the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Gen Moussa Traore, secretary general of UDPM and president of the republic.

TRAORE SPEECH ON OPENING OF PARTY CAMPAIGN

AB081800 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Speech by President Moussa Traore delivered in Bamako on 8 April on the occasion of the launching of the campaign for the election of officers of the Democratic Union of Malian People--recorded]

[Excerpts] Malian men and women, militants of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], taking into consideration one of the main aspirations of our people, the first extraordinary UDPM congress held in Bamako on 10, 11 and 12 February 1981 gave the secretary general of the party the mandate to proceed with the renewal of the party officials at the most appropriate time and according to the most adequate procedure.

It was henceforth my official duty to take all the necessary measures for the proper fulfillment of this important mandate. After careful examination of all aspects of the question with the main aim of starting the procedure with maximum diligence and efficiency, I am pleased today to present to you the program drawn up for the renewal of the various party organs.

The program is as follows: from April to June 1981, renewal of the committee bureaus; October 1981, renewal of the bureaus of the subsections; November 1981, renewal of the bureaus of the sections. Specific problems and constraints will naturally cause delays in the renewal of certain committee bureaus. Nevertheless, all the bureaus of the party committees must without any exception be renewed by 30 September 1981 at the latest. This is imperative and must be scrupulously respected at all levels. The operations or renewal will be supervised by supervisory commissions which have been set up for this purpose.

Militants, this decision by the extraordinary congress of February and this decisive stage reached in the life of our party have a triple signifance. In fact by making the anticipated decision to renew our party officer, our party has shown that it is capable of listening to its militants, that it takes their opinions into consideration and that it is determined to find out their aspirations and fulfill them at any cost. The UDPM has also shown that general interest must procede personal interest and that the officer is first of all in the service of his people. Finally, it has shown that democracy is far from being a vain word and that the people are sovereign. The militants earlier expressed the desire to choose their new leaders and the party did all in its power to fulfill this wish. But militants should know that the responsibilities they have assumed since the extraordinary decisions of the congress are heavy and fearful. At the same time they are responsibilities that none of them can afford to shirk.

The delegates at the extraordinary congress in February fully accomplished their duty. It is now the duty of militants to follow in their wake and fulfill their duties just as fully. And, in the same way as half-measures and palliatives were forbidden last February, it must be stressed to militants that bad choices--choices inspired by sentimentality, complaisance, and compromise--are forbidden. Each of you must use perspicacity, objectivity and wisdom in your choices. You must learn to make judicious choices by placing the right man in the right place.

You must learn to serve your party well by providing it with truly responsible leaders, that is, honest, lucid, courageous men and women who are filled with a high spirit of self-sacrifice and self-denial, duty conscious men and women and competent men and women guided by the defense of general interest.

Fellow Malians, fellow militants, the UDPM exists because of our common attachment to democracy, which we must continuously consolidate and preserve at any price because our people have an imperative need of democracy to express and fulfill themselves. Democracy is a synonym of justice, equality, order and discipline. But this democracy also is composed of law and duty. And today each of you has been called upon, precisely, to fulfill one of these duties, a duty which is above all fundamental. The very future of the UDPM will depend on the manner in which you will vote. The dynamization of the party, the effectiveness of its action and its ability to guarantee democracy and ensure the free and total expression of the people's wishes at all levels will depend on the quality of your choices.

I am fully convinced that you will be able to judge the importance of this stage in the life of our party and the heaviness of your responsibility in these circumstances. Therefore, I have total faith in you. May all of you use your clear-sightedness, objectivity and the necessary rigor in making your choices so that the new leaders you choose will be men and women who will use their abilities to inject strength and health into our party and strive continuously to make it advance rapidly and irreversibly for the happiness, tranquility and greatness of our dear country. Long live the UDPM! Long live Mali!

NIGERIA

LAGOS ANNOUNCES SUMMIT MEETING ON CHAD POSTPONED

AB100754 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] The mini-summit on Chad scheduled to take place in Lagos today has been postponed. The Ministry of External Affairs, which announced this yesterday, gave no reason for the action.

SHAGARI, BENDJEDID TALKS BEGIN IN LAGOS 9 APR

AB100817 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Excerpt] President Shehu Shagari has again stressed the need for greater attention to efforts aimed at promoting intra-African trade and economic development in accordance with the Lagos plan of action. The president made the statement in Lagos yesterday, at the opening of talks between him and the visiting Algerian leader, President Chadli Bendjedid. He noted with satisfaction the growing contracts between the two countries and said they could cooperate in petrochemical, pharmaceutical as well as iron and steel industries.

The president referred to the situation in Chad, the continued war in Western Sahara and emphasized that Africans must find just and equitable solutions to these problems.

COMMENTARY NOTES 'SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP' WITH CUBA

AB091003 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Commentary by Joy Ogo]

[Text] A review of the recent visit of Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque to Nigeria points to an important trend in the development of economic and political relations between Nigeria and a few Latin American and Caribbean nations. It can be stated that the nation's important trend in the growing cooperation between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean is a drive for a new international economic order.

In this connection, Cuba has been prominently active in the struggle to restructure international economic relations. This has been helping to consolidate the unity of the developing nations.

Cuba has vital links with Africa, and, consequently, with Nigeria. Not only does it share a similar colonial experience with Nigeria; it also faces, like Nigeria, economic problems of developing countries. More importantly, Cuba's political support has been invariable to Africa. Cuba is prominent in the Nonaligned Movement, a movement that has provided an important forum for Third World solidarity. Cuba's solidarity with Africa in the liberation struggle is manifested in its military support to the legitimate nationalist movement in Angola. Castro himself provided the explanation for his country's actions in Angola. He has said that solidarity with struggling African peoples is an obligation for Cuba. He even added that Cuba was not only a Latin American country but also a Latin African country. The point was equally emphasized when he said: African blood runs abundantly in our veins, and many of our ancestors came from Africa.

Nigeria has reiterated its irreversible commitment to the liberation of oppressed blacks in southern Africa and the world at large as the keystone of her foreign policy. It may be safe to assume that Cuba has touched and is keeping closer relations with Nigeria within this context of her asserted African policy. As if to emphasize this, at the end of the recent visit of the Cuban vice president to Nigeria, both countries pledged, among other things, their unflinching support for the Palestinian Liberation Organization and self-determination for oppressed peoples in southern Africa in particular.

But the basic thrust of the visit was bilateral cooperation between the two countries. This was revealed in a joint agreement on cultural matters, economic, scientific and technical cooperation. It is possible that the agreement marked the beginning of a pragmatic formula for interdependence in economic, cultural and technological matters between Cuba and Nigeria. Both countries have in common abundant sugar raw materials, for which Nigeria needs technology to exploit. In this regard, the Cuban vice president's visit to the Bacita sugar factory is significant. His country has reached a very high level of development in sugar production, fisheries and some areas of agriculture. This has placed here in an intermediate position between the developing world and the industrial centers. A Cuban transfer of sugar technology may be a major step toward realizing the aspiration for the transfer of middle power technology to a developing economy.

While cultural and ethnic affinities provide the basic framework for a special relationship between Nigeria and Cuba, it will be necessary also to explore the possibilities of a meaningful and lasting political relationship with Cuba. Nigeria and Cuba have sharply divergent ideologies, and this has led observers to state that a meaningful alliance with Cuba is difficult. The justification for this is found in Cuba's overridding concern over capitalism. The speculation is also based on the [word indistinct] of the conservative African states on Cuba's military presence in Angola. On the one hand, they welcome Cuban military aid; on the other, they express concern over a possible Cuban imperialistic drive in Africa. The fears may be unfounded. Nevertheless, the supposed impediment to a meaningful friendship with Cuba and how it could be ameliorated is worth exploring.

The Cuban vice president's visit, however, has signaled the acceleration of that special relationship with Nigeria, based on the assumption of shared interests and common heritage. Nigeria identifies itself with Cuba in the protection of the interests and dignity of black peoples all over the world. This relationship will be reinforced by Nigeria's special identification with the over 2 million blacks in Cuba.

ANGOLA

SWAPO, ANC REJECT U.S. PROPOSAL ON NAMIBIA

AB091251 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The SWAPO and the ANC have rejected the Reagan administration's suggestion that a new conference be convened to discuss the constitution of Namibia. In a joint statement issued in London yesterday, the two organizations said any proposals for the settlement in Namibia which did not come under the term [as heard] was unacceptable to them. The statement said a constitutional conference prior to elections is a clear contradiction to the United Nations' terms for the election of a constituent assembly in Namibia.

Comrade Kao Kungua, who represented the SWAPO in Europe, added that any other plan apart from that of the United Nations is completely unacceptable to SWAPO. The European representative of the ANC, Comrade (Ruthman Parti), told reporters that if [words indistinct] regarded South Africa as a friendly nation and part of the so-called Free World, we can draw from that that they would not be going along with the United Nations on what they have to [words indistinct].

SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR EUROPE

LD081126 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Apr 81 CA

[Text] A delegation of the South-West African Council of Ministers has left Windhoek for London and Brussels where they are to have talks with political leaders. The delegation comprises the president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Peter Kalengula, a member of the National Assembly, Mr (Bertie Botha) and a senior member of the Council of Ministers, Dr Ben Africa. The visit to Europe and Britain follows a similar visit to the United States last month under the leadership of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr Dirk Mudge. The delegation is expected to put the case of the internal parties during their talks in Britain and Europe.

ZAMBIA

SFRY'S MIJATOVIC BEGINS LUSAKA TALKS WITH KAUNDA

AU092050 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Nedzad Leko report]

[Excerpt] Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, who arrived this morning on a 3-day official and friendly visit to Zambia, began this afternoon at the presidential palace in Lusaka his first official talks with President Kenneth Kaunda, his host. Those taking part in the talks on the Yugoslav side are Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs; Vojo Skendzic, member of the federal Executive Council; and Col Gen Janko Susnjar, assistant federal secretary for national defense. In addition to President Kaunda, the talks are attended by Humphrey Mulemba, secretary general of the United National Independence Party, Prime Minister Mundia, and Maj Grey Zulu, state secretary, for defense and security.

Nedzad Leko, Yugoslav radio station's correspondent, reports from Lusaka:

President Tito was a man who we all loved and admired. Perhaps it is better to say who we love and admire, for he is a man who has not and will not pass away and whose work will remain forever. President Kaunda addressed these words to Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, at the beginning of the first official Yugoslav-Zambian talks today. At Kaunda's proposal, those present then paid tribute to President Tito with a minute's silence.

The policy which Yugoslavia is advocating in international relations is extremely appreciated in Zambia, Kaunda then stressed and added that the two countries have a common approach to many problems, which is no accident, for both Yugoslavia and Zambia are distinguished by consistent adherence to the original principles of nonalignment. Our two countries are fraternal in their spirit and the policy they conduct, and we are proud of our friendship with Yugoslavia which is based on the same premises, President Kaunda said in the continuation of his greeting speech. He also expressed satisfaction with the positive development of bilateral relations as well as with the successful coopeation within the Nonaligned Movement. Kenneth Kaunda in conclusion spoke with respect about the Yugoslav political system and pointed out that Zambia has learned much from Yugoslavia.

Replying to Kenneth Kaunda, Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, expressed thanks for the warm words in which the Zambian president on all occasions, and this time again, spoke about President Tito. Your words that Tito and his work remain alive are authoritative because they come from a man who was one of the closest friends of President Tito and is now one of the greatest friends of Yugoslavia. The nonaligned policy conducted by both Zambia and Yugoslavia, Cvijetin Mijatovic continued, is deeply permeated with the ideal of humanism, for which the Zambian society also strives.

Despite malicious (?rumors), nonalignment is being developed and confirmed as an essential need of mankind at the present time. I am convinced, Cvijetin Mijatovic said in concluding his reply, that these Zambian-Yugoslav talks will be an encouragement to further developing friendly relations between the two countries.

Presidents Kaunda and Mijatovic then continued their talks in the presence of their associates. At the moment I am reporting this, the talks are still continuing.